

LAMBDA

Laurentian University's Student Newspaper
Le journal étudiant de l'Université Laurentienne
Volume 39 Issue 14 / Numéro 14

"Player Substitutions...
Million Dollar Contracts...
What Ever Happened to Just
Kill The Guy With The Ball?"
- XFL Commercial

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XFL FEATURE

...Pages 10-11

REALITY TELEVISION FEATURE

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Get In The Ring with
Battlebots

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HOPING TO SELL LAMBDA TO THE MCMAHONS SINCE 1961

White Cane Week

'One Step Closer' to
Independence

by Mat Thompson*
Editor In Chief

Every time Canadians who are blind, visually impaired, or deafblind use their white canes, they are 'One Step Closer' to thriving independently in a sighted world. People who are blind have used the cane as a tool for independent travel for centuries, but it was not until 1921 that the white cane became a symbol of blindness and accessibility. This year, from February 4-10, communities across Canada will celebrate the achievements of those who are blind, visually impaired, or deafblind during White Cane Week.

Organized by the Canadian Council of the Blind (CCB) and The Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB), the week's focus is to raise awareness about the issues and challenges facing Canadians who are blind or visually impaired.

People who use white canes are no different than anyone else. Their white cane is an essential tool for travel helping them to get around safely on their own. But in today's society there are still misconceptions about the white cane and the thousands of people who use them.

"When you meet a person who is blind or visually impaired, the key word is 'person', not 'blind,'" states Dr. Euclid Heric, president and CEO of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind. "It's important to remember that people who are blind or visually impaired are individuals who do the same things as people who are sighted, they just use different techniques sometimes."

It was English photographer James Biggs, who had lost his sight that began to use a white cane to let people in his community know that he was blind. In North America, the promotion of the White Cane is attributed to the Lions Clubs International.

In 1930, a Lions Club member watched intently as a blind man attempted to cross the street with a black cane that was barely visible to motorists against the dark pavement. The Lions club came up with idea of painting the cane white. In 1931, the



Lions Clubs International adopted the promotion of white canes for people who are blind as a national program.

White Cane Week was first launched when a group of blind people felt that there was a lack of understanding about what the white cane represented. In 1947, the first week of February was designated White Cane Week by the Canadian Council of the Blind and The Canadian National Institute for the Blind.

The Canadian Council of the Blind is a national consumer organization representing the interests of people who are blind or visually impaired. Founded in 1944, the CCB strived to improve the quality of life for all Canadians who are blind through social, recreational and advocacy programs.

The CNIB is a non-profit, voluntary agency established in 1918. The CNIB offers quality rehabilitation services to people who are blind, visually impaired or deafblind through a network of 57 centres.

Today, the white cane is the symbol of blindness as well as courage and an independent spirit. The focus of the week is on the abilities, concerns and needs of the people who are blind, visually impaired or deafblind. All across Canada people are learn more about blindness and vision loss during White Cane Week. For more information contact your local CCB or CNIB office or visit www.cnib.ca.

**the information contained in this article was furnished by the Canadian National Institute for the Blind.*

Summer Camp Jobs in the U.S.A.

Lakeside Residential Girls Camp in Maine—Visas Arranged

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Visit our camp on our photo website: <http://homepage.mac.com/kippewaforgirls/>

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News

Laurentian University and St. Joseph's Health Centre to Partner a Long-Term Care Facility in Sudbury

LU Press Release

Laurentian University and the St. Joseph's Health Centre take great pride in announcing that they will partner to develop a long-term facility in the City of Greater Sudbury. Through this partnership, the St. Joseph's Health Centre will lease 28.4 acres from Laurentian University and build a long-term care facility. This property is located on South Bay Road and is adjacent to Bethel Lake and Laurentian's Health Sciences Education Resource Centre.

"The site was selected by the St. Joseph's Health Centre's Building and Property Committee because it offers the greatest partnership potential opportunities in research and educational initiatives, its institutional zoning and its access to site services," explained Sister Bonnie MacLellan, CEO, St. Joseph's Health Centre. As a result of this agreement, St. Joseph's Health Centre will begin work on the design and development of the long-term care facility, which is expected to be operational by March 2003.

This new health facility will have 96 long-term care beds, the number awarded by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care for the City of Greater Sudbury. The St. Joseph's Health Centre will submit a proposal to the Ministry for an additional 32 long-term care beds on January 31, 2001. "The need for long-term care beds within our area is ever-increasing as our population continues to age-in-place. The St. Joseph's Health Centre is committed to developing additional long-term care beds should they become available," stated Sister Bonnie

MacLellan.

"We look forward to this exciting partnership with Laurentian University," declared Sister Shirley Anderson, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the St. Joseph's Health Centre. "This site will allow us to move forward in various areas of health research and education, which will allow us to be a geriatric centre of excellence for Northeastern Ontario."

Both Mr. Bob Del Frate, Chair of LU's Board of Governors and Dr. Jean Watters, LU President, stated that "the University is very pleased to be partnering with the St. Joseph's Health Centre. This arrangement fits in with Laurentian's master plan in terms of vision, partnerships and land usage. As the Greater City of Sudbury evolves into a regional centre for Northeastern Ontario, its role has changed and it has become a leader in providing services to the surrounding areas and municipalities. Since the Greater City of Sudbury continues to assume a greater role in the areas of education and health care, this partnership fits perfectly with this requirement."

Mr. Ron Purcell, Executive Director of Laurentian Enterprises,

spearheaded this partnership. "This is the first of many partnerships that the University will be developing within the community to broaden its relationships with both the public and private sectors. This will enhance Laurentian's role in Northeastern Ontario," explained Mr. Purcell.

Dr. Geoffrey Tesson, Executive Director of Health Initiatives at Laurentian University, is convinced that the partnership will benefit Laurentian students, and faculty members. "Having a long-term care facility situated right next to the Laurentian campus offers some major benefits to the entire University community. A number of our programs address issues related to care for the elderly, and having a facility at our doorstep will open a range of placement opportunities for our students as well as research possibilities for both faculty and students. Like many communities, Sudbury has an aging population and the University is committed to working with all long-term care facilities in the region. It will lead the way in training professionals to work with the elderly and direct research efforts at solving problems that the elderly face."



Women in Motion 2001

by Ryan Gibbs
Assistant News Editor

On Friday, January 26, Laurentian University's School of Engineering, along with Berkshire Securities Inc., announced that a Women in Motion Conference will be held on campus on May 2, 2001. The Conference is aimed at grades 8 and 9 women, in hopes of encouraging them to pursue professional careers in engineering, accounting, business and the military. 250 students are expected to attend this year's Conference.

Women in Motion is a student career conference organization in Ontario that boasts reaching 18 000 students in the past two years. It is committed to "creating and fostering an educational environment that will improve the level of awareness of the diversity in the career opportunities for young women in the 21st century." Its program is designed to "allow students, educators, parents and women from business and industry to explore, in an energized and motivational format, the many career paths that young women can pursue in the next century."

At the news conference, Akela Peoples, founder of Women in Mo-



She also commented that these workshops will reflect the needs of French and Native women in the community. She further remarked that the Conference will aim to include rural communities, in part through videoconferencing, to alert them to the possibilities available to women.

Captain Ken Charles, of the Canadian Armed Forces, spoke enthusiastically of the Conference. He argued that it exposes women to different occupations available to them in the military. He also stated that there is considerable competition among industries for women and the Conference makes students aware of this environment.

Laurentian's Lionel Rudd, of the School of Engineering, made opening and concluding remarks about the Conference. He affirmed its aim to encourage young women to seek professional careers in science and business. He further argued that women have a place in these fields to excel and that the Conference serves to further "dispel myths" and "get rid of barriers". Rudd concluded, "the sky is no longer the limit".

tion revealed the initiatives of this first Conference in Northern Ontario. She stated that the goal of the Conference is to expose students to local business women who can serve as role models. She also stressed that the Conference is driven by interactive activities and emphasized, "motivation is pivotal".

Ruby Loughheed-Yawney, of Berkshire Securities Inc. added that the Conference is not a trade show, but a series of interactive workshops.

Winter Wonderland Charity Ball a Success

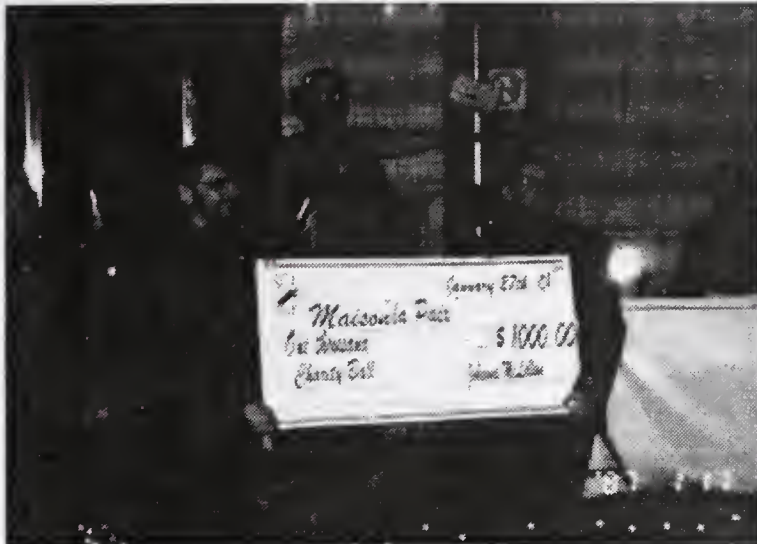
by Mat Thompson
Editor in Chief

On Saturday, January 27th Laurentian University was host to the Students' General Association and Laurentian University Ambassadors' First Annual Winter Wonderland Charity Ball. Although the ball was a first for Laurentian attendance was good with 175 tickets sold at \$20.00 a piece.

The ball was put together by SGA VP Services Johanna McLellan and co-chaired by Laurentian Ambassadors Shane English and Anne Levesque.

"I am very happy with the turn out for this first time event," stated Johanna McLellan. "I look forward to seeing this event turn out year after year."

The ball was attended by not only Laurentian students, but also members of the Sudbury community. The goal of the ball was to raise

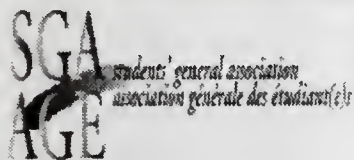


In a very dark ceremony, the SGA donates \$1000 to Maison la Paix

money for Maison "la Paix", and AIDS hospice located in the Sudbury Region. Laurentian was able to donate one thousand dollars from ticket sales plus another two hundred dollars from picture revenue and miscellaneous donations.

Food for the ball was donated from around the city and the hall was decorated by a team of volunteers. "I would like to thank the committee, all the staff of the SGA and all the help we received around the school," added Johanna "We couldn't have done it without you."

Picture (left) - SGA and Ambassadors Volunteers.
(The stud in the middle is single!)



Extreme Band Slam February 2-4, 2001

This weekend, Laurentian University will be hosting the Northern Music Challenge - Extreme Band Slam. This Band Slam is being presented by eventsnorth.com and Icedrum Media in conjunction with several sponsors including Laurentian Athletics and the SGA. The Band Slam will be kicked off on Friday February 2nd in the Great Hall. This event will feature 21 bands, competing in the semi-final events on Friday night and Saturday, with 7 bands reaching the finals to be held on Sunday Feb. 4th at 7 p.m. These bands are competing for a prize package worth \$25,000. The prizes include a guaranteed Showcase Spot at the Molson Canadian Music Festival 2001, a professionally designed band website, studio time, and 4 nights accommodation in Toronto for the Music Festival. This event will be a great way to see not only the best of our local talent, but also talent from all over Northern Ontario.

Tickets are available at the SGA, and prices are \$25 for a weekend pass, and \$5 each for Friday night, Saturday and Sunday nights. The finals on Sunday night are going to be \$15. We often tend to ignore the amazing talent that is right in our backyard, and this is a great opportunity to not only check out the talent from all of Northern Ontario, but to support local bands like Mary Jane, Nickel Bender, Junction Creek and Standpoint which includes some Laurentian Students!

For more info contact Tannys at the SGA, 673-6547, or go to www.northmusic.com/extreme.

SGA AGE
Nominations for the SGA GENERAL ELECTIONS will be open from Thursday, February 1/01 at 9am to Wednesday, February 14/01 at 4pm

The following positions are available:
PRESIDENT
VICE PRESIDENT STUDENT ISSUES
VICE PRESIDENT SERVICES

3 SENATORS
5 OFF-CAMPUS REPRESENTATIVES
CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSIONER
FRANCOPHONE AFFAIRS COMMISSIONER
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS COMMISSIONER

NOMINATION SHEETS AND MORE INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED AT THE SGA OFFICE, LU STUDENT CENTRE ROOM SCE 212

SGA AGE
Les mises en candidature pour les ELECTIONS GÉNÉRALES de l'AGE seront ouverts du jeudi, le 1 février/01 à 9h00 au mercredi, le 14 février/01 à 16h00

Les postes suivant doivent être comblé:
PRÉSIDENT(E)
VICE PRÉSIDENT(E) des affaires étudiants
VICE PRÉSIDENT(E) des services

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5 REPRÉSENTANTS S HORS-CAMPUS
COMMISSAIRE DES AFFAIRES CULTURELS
COMMISSAIRE DES AFFAIRES FRANCOPHONES
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NEWS BRIEF

LU Blood Donor Clinic Results Look Promising

Blood Donor Clinic Results for January 24, 2001 from the hours of 9 am - 11 am and 1 pm - 3 pm. 38 donors attended, 30 donors donated and 8 donors were unable to donate due to medical reasons.

This was the most successful clinic up to date. The original collection goal was 22 units, this goal was not only met but surpassed by 8 additional units of blood. A total of 120 patients within the City of Greater Sudbury area will benefit from these donations.

Many donors that booked appointments during the first portion of the clinic did not attend; we needed additional ten individuals who would be willing to roll up their sleeves at a very short notice. I personally went to two student lounges, the Great Hall, and two computer labs, the response was not encouraging. However, many who said they couldn't decide to attend in the afternoon session. This created a 'backlog' from 2pm to 3pm. It normally takes 45 minutes to 1 hour from beginning to end to donate, unfortunately this time range was exceeded. We at Canadian Blood Services would also like to apologize for any inconvenience the time lapse may have caused during the afternoon portion of the clinic. We do hope that this will not discourage new or repeat donors to attend upcoming events. This problem has been addressed and we are in the process of rectify the problem.

The next Blood Donor Clinic is scheduled for February 28, 2001 at the J.M. Desmarais Library Foyer from 9 am - 11 am and 1 pm - 3 pm. The number to call to book your appointment is 674-4003 from 8:30am to 8:30pm.

Forever In Our Hearts

After the passing of yet another year since the tragic death of one of our finest students, and dear friend to many, Renee Sweeney, I am still in disbelief at how surreal and sudden her death was, and more importantly, how fleeting life can be. As a friend of Renee Sweeney, she left behind for me lessons in life, and in death. By example she showed true friendship and compassion and what it means to live your life well. In death she taught all of us how to appreciate our friends and family — and to tell them how much we care for them.

Our memories of you, Renee, can never be taken away, and it's the memory of your friendship that has enriched our lives. We miss you.

Love Melanie

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Circulation

Lambda circulates 3,300 copies throughout the city of Sudbury and the Laurentian University Campus.

We thank the following for permitting us to circulate our paper at their establishments:

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| Ralph's Sports Bar | |
| William's Coffee Pub | |
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| The Elm Tree | Don Cherry's |
| Lil' Habana's | Travelodge (Paris) |
| Casey's Grillhouse | 1500 Pub and Cues |
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LAMBDA PUBLICATIONS



Lambda is the weekly student newspaper of, by and for the students of Laurentian University. Lambda is funded through a direct student levy by the members of the Student's General Association, yet remains autonomous from all University organizations, both student and administrative.

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EDITOR'S CORNER...

Strange Days in Student Journalism...

by Mat Thompson
Editor In Chief

Last week had to be one of the strangest weeks in the history of student journalism here at Laurentian. Most people may have noticed a few minor things about Lambda and L'Original Dechaine, but didn't really pick up on what was really happening. A dead moose and an eight page Lambda? Most people may have figured we were just getting lazy, but that is far from the truth.

The reason for the flyer-sized Lambda last week was purely due to financial and staffing problems. I have mentioned this before and once again Lambda is working with the smallest staff in the last 15 years. The paper, although we have had a few new writers join, is basically put together by five people. I have seen Lambda struggle with ten to fifteen staff members, but five is getting almost impossible.

Another problem we had was yet another computer has died in our office. One down, two to go and no more Lambda. in a last-ditch effort

to try and save a bit of money we dropped the size of last week's paper from 16 pages to 8, halving our printing cost. We would have dropped the paper completely, but we had contracts with national advertisers which could not be broken.

Another strange thing that happened last week was on Tuesday students found themselves looking at what is rumored to be the last issue of L'Original Dechaine. Although the paper is a much smaller paper in comparison to Lambda, it still is a pretty hard shot as one of two student newspapers on Laurentian's campus folds. According to my sources the January 23rd issue is it for the year, and maybe for good. So what happened? Since no one from that paper or the AEF would really comment, I would have to guess it comes from a lack of support and the rising financial problems that the AEF is finding itself in.

Earlier this year, I found out that the AEF is in major debt and since they fully run and financially support L'Original, the cut of a small

student newspaper makes a small dent in their rising costs. Rumors have already circulated that the AEF is on the brink of total shutdown, but instead of giving in they are just slashing every where they can.

Now many of you have probably heard me talk in a negative way about my counterpart Francophone newspaper, but I feel it is a little sad that they are going to be gone. Student journalism is a major force and for a paper to be shut down is the same as squashing a students freedom of expression and thought. Student newspapers, good or bad, need the time to fully establish themselves. L'Orinial was around for a while, but I have to admit that the paper, beyond the SGA bashing slander that cropped up every September, was really starting to become a good looking paper.

Could Lambda be next on the chopping block? I would have to say yes and no. No, Lambda will not be gone completely but student newspapers need student support. Lambda has a great group of dedicated writers, editors and staff, but it gets harder

and harder by the day to keep the paper up to the level that students expect.

One student came up to me and flat out told me he expects "a good newspaper that has everything he wants to read every week." I'm glad that this student and others turn to Lambda for that, but this student also needed to listen to what he was saying. In my opinion, this student took for granted that the paper just appeared on the stands every Thursday morning. What he expects and the reality of running a student newspaper is very different. I wish we could produce a Toronto Star sized paper that everyone loved on a weekly basis but it just isn't possible at this point.

Lambda is sticking around... but it is up to the students just how much content there is and the frequency of it arriving. That, my friends, is the reality of student journalism.

SPACE FOR RANT ... Letters to the Editor

Hail to the Chief!

Hats off to Lambda's Editor In Chief Mat Thompson. It's refreshing to see that there is an 'open-minded', emotionally intelligent at the helm of this university's newspaper.

Our apologies for not publicly supporting the Toronto unions. This was an extremely important event representing a significant step toward equality. We are currently frying bigger fish than the pea-brains who called Q92 announcing their disgust at same-sex marriages. We'll keep you posted. Again, BRAVO!

Pride@LU

editor's note: I AM THAT DAMN GOOD!!!

Editor's Note: No name was given with this letter to the editor, but the letter has been printed anyway to show just how un-educated and closed-minded some people actually are.

Dear Lambda,

I was totally disgusted by the editorial printed last week by your so-called editor Mat Thompson on gays getting married. How can someone who is in charge of a public newspaper which reaches many young people actually defend this abomination? A newspaper's job is to report the news and not try to sway people over to your own deviant ways. You are obviously not a Christian and with the ideas and thoughts you printed you will never be accepted come judgment day. A newspaper is for just that, news. If you are going to cover such a disgusting story you should show both sides of the story and show how something like this destroys a society and can do damage to the ideas and thoughts of the youth....

Editor's Note II: There was more but I felt myself getting dumber reading the letter. I think this segment of a drunken tirade is enough to just prove what I stated last week... "some people are just born slow".

To the anonymous author of the letter concerned about receiving grades:

Although I have not investigated the complete list of concerns expressed by an aggrieved student in the January 18th issue of Lambda, I would like to apologize to that person for any inconvenience he/she suffered as a result of not receiving a final grade from the Registrar's Office. The process of transmitting grades to students involves several steps: a professor submitting grades in a timely fashion to the Chair and Dean for approval, the transmission of those grades to the Registrar's Office, and the recording and dissemination of results to students.

Please be assured that Laurentian takes its responsibilities to students seriously, and is constantly trying to improve its services to them. Once again, on behalf of Laurentian University, please accept my apologies.

Sincerely,
Douglas H. Parker,
Vice-President, Academic (Anglophone Affairs)

COMING MARCH 1, 2001
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CORRUPTION QUIZ!!!



Volume 39 -
Issue 14 / Numéro 14

Cover Design:
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Lambda

Copy Deadline:
Fridays at 2:00 pm

Editorial and General Meetings:
Fri. at 1:30 pm

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR LAURENTIAN TEACHING ASSISTANTS

A group of TAs has begun meeting for the purpose of forming a union for Laurentian University Teaching Assistants.

To assist them they have contacted the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), the union that already represents TAs at many other universities, including York, U of T, Ryerson, Carleton and more.

Why a union for Laurentian TAs?

Laurentian TAs lag far behind other – unionized – TAs in salaries, job security, benefits, and academic supports.

This despite the large and increasing volume of teaching performed by this part of the university's teaching staff.

We intend to change that.

To do so we need your help. At least 40% of all of us must sign a card indicating our interest in a union before the Ontario Labour Relations Board will conduct a certification vote.

If you would like to sign a card or want further information contact Derek Blackadder at 416-292-3999, 1-800-362-0974, or at dblackadder@cupe.ca.



DE-CLASSIFIEDS

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MESSAGE BOARD

Calling All Queers!
Pride@LU will be offering a "Coming Out" group. Discrecion assured. Contact Nick or Dana at Ext. 1088 for details.

To the UC Redhead from the Winter Wonderland Ball. ICQ me! I'll make you a special drink!

Check out 8th Floor UC for the 8th Floor Survivor Challenge. Think you know who's next to get voted off? Prove it.

Have you ever pondered why men have nipples? If so contact the Usless Ponderer's Club, 12th floor UC.

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F.Y.I.

Wake Up! Spiritually for Today About this retreat...

The material presented during this retreat is some of the most insightful and inspired wisdom of the ages. De Mello's humour and delightful story telling ability make it very accessible. You will be challenged to *drop the illusions* that keep you from being happy, examine your *need for the approval of others* and reflect on your understanding of 'love.'

As with the wisdom of any great thinker, the challenge for us is to open ourselves to the message and then be willing to find ways to integrate it in our own lives.

The heart of Anthony de Mello's spiritual message is 'awareness.' Mixing Christian spirituality, Buddhist parables and psychological insight, de Mello's words of hope come together to give people, what may be, the biggest challenge of their lives.

Anthony De Mello was both a Jesuit priest and a psychologist. He is known throughout the world for his writings, spiritual direction and inspired conferences. He died suddenly in 1987. Among his many books are *Sadhana* and *The Song of a Bird*. *Awareness* is a book based in the video, "Wake Up!"

NOTE: As with most retreats that span a two-day period, it is hoped that participants will plan to stay overnight at our retreat sight. This allows for a better sense of continuity regarding the material, as well as lots of time for socializing and community building. However, if you are unable to stay overnight, please plan to arrive at our Saturday morning session no later than 9 am.

For those staying overnight, you will need a bedroll etc. Both breakfast and lunch will be provided on Saturday.

For those unable to stay overnight, lunch will be provided on Saturday.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Daniel Currie (retreat facilitator) during the day at 5233-9235 or 669-1225 after 5 pm.

The Laurentian University / University of Sudbury

PHILOSOPHY CLUB

Invite you to join in a discussion of

THE TIMELINES OF PHILOSOPHY

February 6, 2001

7pm at Book & Beans, Durham St.

Everyone Is Welcome!

Coffee Will Be Served.

The Laurentian Association of
Forensic Scientists Presents:

Arson Investigation : The Basics

A Seminar from the Northern Ontario Fire Marshall

John Montgomery

Tuesday, February 6th at 7pm

Upper Fraser Auditorium (FA 056)

\$2 for members - \$5 non-members

(pay at the door)

Welcome Back Girls and Boys!

The Laurentian University Women's Centre is proud to announce the Clothesline Project (T-shirts hanging in the Bowling alley before Christmas) was a huge success. The number of t-shirts doubled this year and the amount of support from other agencies was phenomenal. We would like to thank all the wonderful volunteers that helped make the posters and string the T-shirts but most of all we would like to thank all the women that came forward to make shirts. You are courageous and your efforts are commendable. Now that second semester has begun, the Coordinators have a very important announcement to make:

The Women's Centre needs volunteers!!!

If you are a female student that has an open-mind and new ideas, come to the Women's Centre and volunteer. We have many different areas that people can volunteer in. For instance, you can be a member of our collective, spend time in the office, help during our events, make posters and the list goes on. If any of these sound interesting to you, drop by the office located in room L-221 (near the bookstore) or phone us at 675-1151 ext.1089.

The Centre is looking for a female student that has experience developing websites. If you have any knowledge about computers and websites, it would be greatly appreciated if you would donate your time to the Centre. Please drop by or phone.

We are also accepting any ideas for events from the studentbody. If you have an idea for an event, a movie you would like shown or a new service we can provide submit it to the centre either in writing, in person or over the phone. No idea is a stupid idea!

For more information on the Women's Centre phone at 675-1151 ext 1089 or drop by room L-221.

Get in the Ring

by Bryson McCarthy
columnist

It's funny how this is the second week in a row where I am complaining about people and their cars, but damn, the second a person gets behind the wheel of a car in Sudbury they turn into Forrest Gump on stupid pills! If it's not how bad they drive, it's total retardation when they park.

Let's take the LU campus for an example. There are designated parking lots all over the school which seem to have endless amounts of spaces in them. For the first couple of months people have no problem finding a parking space. Everyone is happy and remembers exactly how to park, that is until the snow comes. All of a sudden the parking lobe of a person's brain freezes the first time snow is on the ground. I swear I would love to just sit in the parking lots with bat and every time someone parks like a moron I would club them like the stupid animal that they are.

My first example of this moron phenomenon is spacing. How come in the winter time people need more and more room to park their cars? When a parking lot has lines on the ground, no one has a problem parking properly and leaving about a foot and a half between cars. Once the lines go away though everyone seems to think that leaving about

three to four feet between them and the next car is perfectly acceptable. You know, I wouldn't have a problem with that if I had a car that would fit into the 3/4 space you left, but most cars don't fit. So what are we left with? A parking lot that can only fit maybe two thirds of the normal cars.

There should be a test for every person when they get out of their car to see if they have left too much space. Wait... I have it. When I club you like the stupid little baby seal that you are and your body falls between the cars, if your head and feet don't touch either car then you have left too much space and you deserved the clubbing. Now, if I club you and there seems to be the right amount of space, don't worry. I may club you by accident, but your clubbing will go to stop other actual morons from parking like idiots and avoid the club.

I don't know if I'm some kind of genius (actually I do... and I am) but doesn't it seem like those cool little green wooden dividers are about the same width as a normal parking spot? So wouldn't it be smart to line your car up perfectly with one of those. Then hey, maybe the next person and the next person and the next person will then for once I can fit my damn car into a lot without having to club the Gumps of this university. And I will warn administration now...



you are just as bad as the students. Sure, your car may be worth more than ours but that does not mean that you should get more space around your car.

So why do people need all that extra space in the winter time? Maybe they are afraid of dings and scratches or maybe they think that cars just randomly slide at each other on ice and the more distance the better. Well, maybe I should get some of the genetic freaks from the LU Gym and have them push the cars together, then we will scratch 'LEARN TO PARK' into the doors of each car as a friendly reminder to not be so stupid.

If you disagree with my opinion, the ring is always open to new challengers but remember, if I actually wanted your opinion, I'd give it to you!

The opinions expressed on this page are the sole thoughts, views and opinions of the writer and do not reflect the views and opinions of Lambda Publications and Lambda Publications' Staff Members.



Urban Purpose

by Sylvia Marasco
contributor

It is the year 2001 and while one drives on the high-tech information highway, kissing another's bumper as it is rush hour all the time, one might turn on the radio and hear an advertisement... or eight. It would hum the familiar tune "the cure for cancer... aids is being researched... a new vaccine for... a new gene has been discovered to... technology will allow us to eventually..." but the song always ends in the same minor key, "more money is needed, please support your local... help make the cure for... become a reality."

It seems hope has become the genetically altered dangling carrot and only money can cure diseases. Why not make the almighty dollar into capsules or put it into vaccines? Let's put our money where our mouth is. Oops!! No need, we already do that. Case in point, Medicare!!! It's not free!!! Oh, the glory of medical advancement where a cure for the common cold is still a mystery!

If this so-called advancement were to be made into a board game, it would be called 'capitalist-opoly' where three multi-billion dollar game pieces would be merged into one. One piece would be a large bronze open mouth of lies, another would be an enormous silver knife for stabbing people in the back and the third would be a pure gold piece in the shape of a dollar sign. The object of the game would be to own people's well-being by 'educating' them into believing that it is in their best interest for a 'professional' to take care of their health. The real skill of the game however is to have the people foot the bill! So there are your choices. Which piece would you like to be? To play this game, the choice is already made for you. To chose one piece is to choose all the pieces, and that is the facade. We actually think we are

making a decision when really it is already made. It is always in hidden support of the merger guys!

While it is not my intention to debunk conventional medicine (or more specifically, the powerful, greedy pharmaceutical companies) as it definitely has an important place in our lives, I think many would agree that something essential has been lost in modern sick... I mean health care that is... or to put it another way, prevention.

So, instead of spending time and energy focusing on the game or 'choosing' to be run over by some profit driven speed demon trying to get nowhere faster, I decided to begin by creating my own back yard. This meant planting a seed, watering and nurturing it. After much time spent listening, thinking, pondering, reflecting, researching, studying, learning, practicing, writing and talking, I have managed to grow a tree bearing organic fruits of information on preventative nutrition, therapy and medicine. My sources will be, among others, various reputable books, magazines, local naturopaths, chiropractors, a classical homeopath and a soon-to-be registered nutritional consultant (me). My goal is to further educate myself and to show those who read this column the importance of taking care of oneself as much as possible.

It is exciting to see that preventative medicine is becoming more and more recognized, but there is still much work to do. Change can only take place when people recognize there is a need for one. That is the Urban Purpose. My it contribute to the planting of seeds of change in your back yard, so that eventually a self-nurtured garden will grow. This garden represents a new system where focus will be the health of the individual... and nothing else.

WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR HEADS?

Keeghan Lachlin
Staff Writer

The strangest thing happened to me the other day. It was a rather traumatizing event and I may have a real hard time expressing my true feelings about this. I still can't make it through the night without waking up in a deep cold sweat, my heart pounding at my chest, the room spinning and the terror. Oh the terror. It floods through my body making me shiver with fear. I will now attempt to explain my horrifying situation.

Last week I had to run into town to pick up some odds and ends and unfortunately no one on my floor would lend me their car. Naturally I had to take the bus. When I was ready to come home I realized that I had

missed timed my day and I had to wait 30 minutes for the next bus to come. I bundled up in all of my winter gear in order to keep jack frost away during my waiting time. This is where it gets scary.

After about 5 minutes of waiting I noticed that a van had slowly drove by. A few minutes later the same van drove by once again. This time it was driving so slow that I could hear a Sarah McLachlan and Tori Amos melody blasting out of its sound system. The third time that the van approached I started to get nervous. Next thing I knew the van stopped right in front of me and the window slowly rolled down.

A rather attractive looking

female passenger asked me what I was up to. I told her that I was waiting for the bus. The driver then leaned forward and asked me if I wanted to go for a ride. As I was thinking about going for it, the best thing in the world happened. The side door of the van opened and a third female asked me if \$500 would be enough. I quickly agreed and jumped in the van. I had a night of hot, sweaty sex with 3 hot women.

Why do I have nightmares you ask? Because I know that this will never happen again. Three hotties and I got \$500 for it! The message behind this: the bus stop is a great place to pick up.

"If I wanted your opinion, I'd give it to you"
- Anonymous



Volunteer Opportunity with Best Buddies Canada CAMPUS COORDINATOR POSITION

Best Buddies Canada is a national charitable organization dedicated to enriching our communities through one-to-one friendships between students and adults with developmental disabilities. We have over 30 chapters on University and College campuses across Canada.

Best Buddies is currently searching for a Campus Coordinator to establish and manage a Best Buddies chapter on your University/College campus for one academic year, beginning September 2001. Applicants should possess good organization and communication skills, have creative ideas about starting a new group on campus and be interested in having a friend with a developmental disability. Campus Coordinators attend an all-expense paid Leadership and Training Conference in Barrie, Ontario in August 2001.

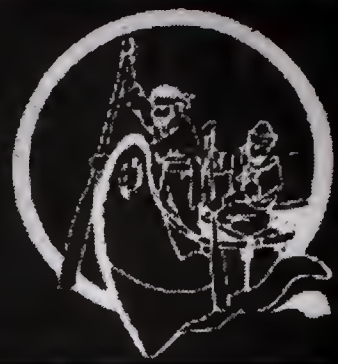
For more information on this challenging and rewarding volunteer opportunity, contact Nicole at 1-888-779-0061 or by E-Mail: bestbuddiescanada@yahoo.ca

Lambda's First Ever SHORT STORY COMPETITION

See Page 15 for details



Lambda Sports



Lady Vees Defeat Rams but Fall to the Varsity Blues

by Jason Stevenson
Acting Sports Editor

Lady Vees vs. Ryerson

On Friday, January 26, the Laurentian Lady Vees were able to hold on to their perfect record with a narrow three-point defeat of the Lady Rams from Ryerson.

Throughout the first half the game was neck and neck, at one point the Lady Vees trailed the Rams. A lack of defensive pressure on Ryerson's Miruna Muller in the first half kept the game close, until late in the first half when the Lady Vees stepped up and added some key baskets to pull within 2 points of the 32-30 Ryerson halftime lead.

Whatever verbal lashing Lady Vees coach John Campbell gave his team, must have worked. Throughout the second half the Lady Vees

minimized the play of Ryerson's go scoring machine, Miruna Muller.

By applying excellent defensive pressure the Lady Vees were able to hold Muller to 5 points in the second half. This was after she so readily dominated the first half of play, scoring 18 of Ryerson's 32 points.

The intense play of Laurentian's Carolyn Plummer, stymied the Rams and helped keep the Lady Vees in the game they should have won readily, but even the queen's of the court have an off day. Unfortunately, the virtually elimination of Muller was not enough to stem the tide. They Lady Vees, despite a seemingly concerted effort, trailed Ryerson throughout the second half of this low scoring affair. However, with last six minute came redemption

for the Lady Vees, when Laurentian finally pulled it together. The momentum changed with some pivotal shooting by Lady Vee's veteran Shauna Conway which pulled the Lady Vees to a 68 to 65 win over the Rams of Ryerson.

Lady Vees coach John Campbell commented that "we struggled with the defensive boards and gave Ryerson too many second chances...our uncharacteristic poor foul shooting was also detrimental". High scorer and Player of the Game for Laurentian was Carolyn Plummer who had 16 points and 4 rebounds. Player of the Game for the Ryerson Rams was Miruna Muller who scored team high 23 points and 6 rebounds.

Lady Vees vs. U of T

Following their narrow defeat of the Ryerson Rams on Friday night, the Lady Vees suited up again on Sunday evening to take on their rivals the University of Toronto Varsity Blues in our hallowed Ben Avery Gym.

In what can only be described as a heart breaker to all in attendance,

out beloved Lady Vees, powerhouse of the OUA were finally handed a regular season defeat. The Varsity Blues were able to hand the Laurentian Lady Vees a landslide defeat, 72-51.

The Blues dominated the game right from the tip off; forcing the Lady Vees to struggle at both ends of the court.

The numbers never lie, and in this game the Lady Vees were out-shot 55% to 41%, out-rebounded 18-15 and turned the ball over 14 times to the Blues 6 times, while failing to sink a free throw in the first half. The lack of solid play on the defensive boards, and uncharacteristically poor foul shooting, which were the Lady Vees faults in the Ryerson game, according to coach Campbell hurt the Lady Vees again. Even more damaging was their inability to stymie the Blues defence, by allowing 14 turnovers.

Claire Danes led the Vees scoring 15 first half points along with 4 rebounds while Vanessa Richardson added 13 points and 5 rebounds, combining for one more than the Vees

halftime total of 27 points. The Varsity Blues had totally dominated the Lady Vees by 19 points at the first buzzer, 46-27.

Once down the Lady Vees stayed down, and the second half performance was much like the first, painful to watch. At one point the Varsity Blues held the Lady Vees scoreless for six minutes, and although the Vees began to rebound better, they were unable to drop a single shot.

The team shot 17 for 47 from the field and a terrible 10% from the line, totally uncharacteristic of the Lady Vees. While Toronto shot 87% from the free throw line, for a total of 26 points and more than the difference in the game. The Varsity Blues also combined for a total of 21 steals to the Lady Vees 10.

High scorer for Laurentian tonight was rookie, Meghan Eves with 11 points and 4 rebounds. Elanna Robson was the top scorer for the Varsity Blues with 20 points and 8 rebounds while Claire Daines was close behind with 17 points and 8 rebounds.

Basketball Vees Down Ryerson and U of T

by Jason Stevenson
Acting Sports Editor

Voyageurs vs. Rams

Following the Lady Vees game on Friday night, the Voyageurs men's basketball team played host to their OUA East rival, the Ryerson Rams. Given that the Voyageurs were defeated quite handily by Ryerson in their previous meeting on the Rams home floor, expectations were of retribution seemed fleeting.

A dismally boring, and uneventful first half saw both teams open the game with poor shooting from the field and free throw line. Add sloppy play and numerous turnovers, the two teams ended the second half with Laurentian trailing 31-30 in a game that was a comedy of errors.

Unfortunately, the second half was much like the first for the Voyageurs while the Rams stepped up their play and their shooting from the field. Laurentian trailed by as much as 9 points midway through the second half before a timeout by Voyageurs head coach Virgil Hill sparked the team, and they began to scrape away at the lead.

Laurentian was able to slowly close the deficit to three points with just under two minutes, the Rams and Voyageurs traded baskets until Laurentian forward Jim Jefferson sank the tying three-pointer with 31 seconds left on the game clock. Ryerson had possession and was looking for

the last shot.

Rams forward Sasha Ivankovic threw up a shot that went out of bounds to Laurentian with 5 seconds remaining on the clock. The ball was inbounded to guard Jim Jefferson, who carried it the length of the court, pulled up and buried the game winning shot as the final buzzer sounded and the Voyageurs took the victory 70-67.

Jan-Michael Nation led the way for Ryerson with a 21 points and added 8 rebounds, but the night belonged to game hero Jim Jefferson who in addition to hitting the buzzer beater, paced Laurentian with a 22 point effort. Leon Sutton was a force under the glass for the Voyageurs rounding up game high 11 rebounds.

The win improves the Laurentian's record to 6-7 on the year and drops Ryerson to 7-5 as the battle for the final playoff spot in the East really heats up.

Voyageurs vs. Varsity Blues

Following their close victory over the Ryerson Rams, the Voyageurs took on the University of Toronto Blues Sunday evening in the Ben Avery Gymnasium. Our Laurentian Voyageurs once again rose to the occasion to bring themselves up to .500 and defeated the Blues 73-69 in what was a closely contested battle.

The first half saw Laurentian out in front 37-34, and although both

teams shot poorly, the Voyageurs were able to out rebound the Blues 24-13, a skill that they have sorely been lacking this season.

Leading the way for Laurentian in the first half was veteran Clifton Edwards with 11 points and 4 rebounds, while Dwayne Burton was not far behind with 6 first half rebounds.

A great offensive effort saw Laurentian improve their shooting percentage in the second half to 52%, while a stepped up defensive effort forced Toronto's to fall to 38%. However, the increased defensive pressure made up for the additional 10 turnovers Laurentian gave away in the second half, and gave them the edge they needed. Laurentian took a 65-60 lead with 3 minutes remaining, and the Varsity Blues were unable to make up the ground.

With the Voyageurs ahead by 2 and the score at 71-69, with 4 seconds remaining, Leon Sutton was fouled. He sunk both free throws to seal the Blues fate and earn himself Player of the Game honours. Sutton scored 16 points, including 10 for 10 from the free throw line and 8 rebounds.

Laurentian coach Virgil Hill commented "this was a hard fought win over a good defensive and well coached team...we stepped and did what we had to..." This win improves the Voyageurs record to an even .500, 7-7.



ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

January 22, 2001

Male Athlete of the Week

Gilbert Duplesis of the Aqua Vees swim team is the Pat and Mario's Male Athlete of the Week. He led the Voyageurs to victory over Ryerson and York with seven first place finishes out of eight races entered. Duplesis placed first in the following events: 200m, 400m and 1500m freestyle, 200m and 400m IM and 50m and 200m butterfly.

He also finished second in the 100m butterfly to round out the weekend. Gilbert's leadership in the pool is just what the Aqua are looking for heading into the OUA Championships in three weeks time. Duplesis is a third year Arts student from Laval, Quebec.

Female Athlete of the Week

Shauna Conway of the still undefeated Laurentian Lady Vees basketball team is the Pat and Mario's female Athlete of the Week again this week. Conway turned in another stellar performance this weekend on the road while her team faced and defeated McGill and Concordia extending their record to 11-0.

Friday night against McGill, Conway went 10 for 14 from the field and 3 for 5 from the 3-point line scoring 22 points in the 86-71 victory. Against Concordia, Conway played almost the entire game and scored an awesome 28 points including three 3-pointers, 8 rebounds, 2 steals and an assist. Shauna is a native of Sault Ste. Marie, ON and a fifth year Sport and Education student.

January 29, 2001

Female Athlete of the Week.

In the OUA qualifying races this weekend in North Bay, Becky tied for first in the 5KM freestyle race and placed 3rd in the 7.5 KM classic race. Laakso, who was instrumental in the Women's team second place finish to Lakehead this weekend, is skiing very well and is looking forward to the FISU games in Zakopane, Poland February 7-17. Becky is a fourth year kinesiology student and hails from Azilda ON.

Male Athlete of the Week.

Karl competed in the OUA qualifying races this weekend in North Bay and had two top ten finishes. In the 10KM freestyle race, Geisbrecht placed 10th. In his stronger event, the 15KM classic, Karl placed first and allowed the team to dominate the standings and take first place after the two day event. Karl is looking forward to the OUA Championships in two weeks in Ottawa. Karl is a fourth year Adventure Leadership student from Sault Ste. Marie ON.

Superbowl XXXV = Superbore

by Brian Fraser
staff writer

If there was one word to describe this year's edition of the Super Bowl it would be this: Boring. The game had little drama throughout as two teams with equally brutal offenses squared off for the biggest prize in football.

The first quarter saw only one first down for each team as Kerry Collins and Trent Dilfer struggled early against the opposing team's defense. Trent Dilfer tossed a 38 yard touchdown pass to Brandon Stokely with 6:50 left in the first quarter to give the Ravens a 7-0 lead. This would prove to be the only excitement of the first half.

After the boring first quarter came the equally boring second quarter. In this quarter, the teams thrilled the fans by getting more first downs. The Ravens recorded 5 first downs and the Giants recorded an amazing 7 first downs. With all the first downs that were happening it was sometimes hard to keep your focus on the rest of the game. Matt Stover kicked a 47 yard field goal in the second quarter to push the lead to 10-0 for the Ravens.

Finally the half time show arrived, and not a moment too soon. I was expecting a good show when I heard names such as Adam Sandler, Aerosmith, and the always pleasant to look at Britney Spears. Unfortunately the organizers decided to have Nsync do several songs with rock legends Aerosmith, and in the process butcher a few of their classic songs.

Once the third quarter began people were beginning to dread



"Damn, I thought it would be bigger!"

watching the game. At this point came the only drama of the game in a 36 second period. It started when Duane Starks intercepted a Kerry Collins pass and returned it 49 yards for the touchdown. The Giants were pretty much done at this point. Ron Dixon then returned the ensuing kick-off 97 yards for the Giants that gave them new life and new hope.....until their kickoff. As ridiculous as the game had been so far it was only fitting that Jermaine Lewis return the Giants' kickoff and finish them off. The fourth quarter started with the same amount of interesting plays as the first three. Zero. Another boring quarter to put this game into the category of 'worst Super Bowl ever?' Jamal Lewis scored on a 3 yard touchdown run to become just the third rookie runningback to rush for a TD in a Super Bowl. The touchdown made the score 31-7.

Stover added his second field goal to make the final score 34-7.

Giants' quarterback Kerry Collins finished the game with a mere 114 yards and tied the Super Bowl record for most interceptions thrown in a game with 4. He also had 3 or 4 passes tipped or blocked that easily could have been interceptions for the Ravens.

Before the game Trent Dilfer said all he wanted to be was the "quarterback of a team that won a Super Bowl despite its quarterback." He accomplished just that. Dilfer was released by Tampa Bay last season before signing with the Ravens in the off season. The Ravens would have won the game with Britney Spears at quarterback, and it would have been a lot more fun to watch. Trent Dilfer is a useless tit, and now he has a Super Bowl ring. Go figure.

Carruth Gets 18 Years in Prison

by Paul Nowell
www.tsn.ca

Former NFL player Rae Carruth was sentenced Monday to at least 18 years, 11 months in prison for his role in the 1999 shooting death of his pregnant girlfriend.

Superior Court Judge Charles Lamm sentenced Carruth after hearing emotional testimony from the parents of Cherica Adams, who was eight months pregnant when she was shot four times in November 1999. She died a month later. Her mother, Sandra, said she forgives Carruth, but "in no way do I think he should get off easy for what he has done."

"He's already gotten the greatest of mercy - his life is spared," she said. "Let him take the punishment not of a little boy, but of a man one time. Let him know he needs some help."

Adams, 24, was mortally wounded in an attack prosecutors said Carruth set up to avoid paying child support. Prosecutors said he used his white Ford Expedition to block Adams' car so a hired gunman could shoot her. Sandra Adams also said the child had cerebral palsy.

Carruth - convicted of conspiracy to commit murder, shooting into an occupied vehicle, and using an instrument with the intent to destroy an unborn child - is to serve at least 18 years, 11 months, with a maximum of 24 years, four months. He will get credit for the roughly 14 months he was jailed awaiting trial.

Carruth stared at the judge, showing no emotion, as Lamm an-

nounced the sentence. Defence lawyer David Rudolf immediately filed notice of appeal. Adams' parents and other relatives embraced one another as the hearing ended.

Sandra Adams also testified that her grandson Chancellor, delivered prematurely by emergency Caesarean section after the shooting, is developmentally disabled and has cerebral palsy.

"He can't hold onto his bottle ... he has trouble even holding onto the rattle," she said. "He's not anywhere near taking his first step. The doctors are telling me he might not take a first step until he is three years old or older."

Rudolf asked the judge to consider mitigating circumstances, including the fact that Carruth had no criminal record prior to the shooting, and that he served as a mentor to youngsters. Prosecutor Gentry Caudill argued that Carruth played a lead role in the crime and took advantage of Adams' "misplaced" trust in him. He also noted that Carruth has shown "not one ounce of remorse," for Adams' death. "He offered no assistance as Cherica lay dying from those wounds," Caudill said.

Lamm also rejected a defence motion to vacate Carruth's convictions, which Rudolf said were inconsistent with the jury's decision Friday to acquit Carruth of first-degree murder. Prosecutor David Graham said previous court rulings have allowed such verdicts.



"Come on, the glove wasn't even mine!"

Are You a Shark, Fish or Rock?

It doesn't matter as long as you take the plunge into Laurentian's Olympic Gold Pool in the Ben Avery Building on Sunday March 4th, 2001 for an exhilarating intramural Water Basketball Tournament. The tournament will be held during the hours of 3pm to 6pm. Registration takes place next week from Monday, February 5th to Friday, February 9th, 2001. Teams are to be co-ed and must consist of a minimum of five players (two of which must be female) to a maximum of ten players. Keep in mind the tournament is FREE and there will be lots of great prizes.

3-on-3 Basketball

Are you the best in the west or will you go down like the rest? If you want to find out, come and participate in the 3x3 Basketball Intramural tournament for women, men, and coed teams at Laurentian University. Registration will be held on February 5th to 9th. There are lots of great prizes to be won. Come and enjoy yourself on March 12th from 10:00am - 4:00 pm. There is a limited number of teams accepted, and a cost of only \$5.00/person. Registration will be accepted at the Department of Active Living B226 in the Physical Education Building. Open to Laurentian University full-time students, faculty and full-time staff.

Laurentian Students

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XFL Football

No Fair Catches:

XFL Rule Highlights

www.xfl.com
Stamford, Conn.

Highlighted by the banning of fair catches on punts, the XFL today announced key rules changes for the league's upcoming season. In addition to eliminating fair catches, the XFL has also modified current punting rules in several other ways to introduce the "most exciting fourth down in football." Most prominently among these changes is the fact that in the XFL, any punt traveling more than 25 yards will be a live ball recoverable by either team.

"You can sure that no fan will get a drink or go to the bathroom during an XFL punt," said XFL President Basil V. DeVito, Jr. "When the punter lets fly anything can happen. The strategic possibilities are endless."

With the banning of the fair catch also comes protection for punt returners in the form of a five-yard protective "halo" by potential tacklers until the punt is caught, and members of the kicking team will not be able to release from the line of scrimmage until the ball is kicked.

Another major XFL rules change involves the point after touchdown, which also has been changed to eliminate what has become football's most automatic score. In the XFL, there will be no PAT kicks, instead teams will have to run or pass from the two-yard line to score one point. What's more, since the clock will be running during this play, any fumbled or intercepted attempt can be returned by the defending team for a one point score of its own.

Taking two pages out of the college rules book, the XFL will require that a receiver or defender need only one foot inbounds to make a reception or interception, and that a quarterback is deemed down when his forward progress is halted, thus there is no "in-the-grasp" rule. Contrary to some reports, XFL quarterbacks will be protected should they slide or otherwise give themselves up and headslaps are illegal.

In the other major rules

changes, the XFL will return to the good old days of pass defense as defensive backs will be able to employ the "bump and run" all the way down the field. The league will also utilize a 35-second clock between plays when the clock has been stopped, 25 seconds when there is no stoppage in time.

"We haven't really invented any totally new plays but have incorporated certain rules from other professional and collegiate leagues, past and present, to create a faster-paced, higher-excitement brand of football," said XFL Vice President of Football Operations Mike Keller.

In addition to these rules changes, the XFL also announced that no game will end in a tie due to its "can you top this" overtime rule, in which both teams will get the ball at least once. Each team will get four downs to score from the opponent's 20 yard line. However, if team A scores a touchdown in less than four downs, team B only gets that many downs to respond. Should neither team score, or should each team score the same amount of points on the same down, the first time around, they'll do it again until there's a winner.

"We think we have come up with an innovative, unique and fair way to decide a game which tied after regulation," said Keller. "We wanted both teams to get the ball at least once in overtime, but if the first team scores a touchdown on the first play, everyone in the building and everyone watching on TV will know that if the second team doesn't put it in the end zone on the first play, the game is over."

All of the league's rules will soon be available when the XFL distributes its first-ever Rules Book prior to the start of the season on February 3. All XFL rules will be posted on the league's Web site, XFL.com.

HOW DO XFL RULES DIFFER?

The major rule changes adopted include:

THE MOST EXCITING FOURTH DOWN IN FOOTBALL:

No fair catches are permitted, but the returning player is granted a 5-yard protected area or "halo" where a member of the kicking team may not encroach until the ball is touched, and the kicking team may not cross the line of scrimmage until the ball is punted. At the same time, any punt traveling more than 25 yards past the line of scrimmage is a live ball and can be recovered by either team.

POINT AFTER TOUCHDOWN:

There will be no kicking of extra points. Teams will run a play from the two-yard line, and will receive one point if the conversion is successful. During the conversion the clock will be running, therefore the defensive team can earn one point by returning a fumble or interception into the opponent's end zone.

ONE FOOT INBOUNDS:

As per the current collegiate rule, a receiver/defender needs only one foot inbounds on a reception/interception.

SHORTER PLAY CLOCK:

Teams have 35 seconds to get a play off after previous play is ruled dead and 25 seconds following any clock stoppage.

OTHERS

- One man on offense may be in forward motion outside of the tackles.
- Defensive players may use bump-and-run tactics on offensive players down the field.
- Returning teams must run kickoffs back out of the end zone, unless the kick carries through the end zone.
- Head slaps are illegal.

HOW DOES OVERTIME WORK?

Each team will get the ball at least once:

Each team will have four downs from the opponent's 20-yard

line. Team A may not attempt a field goal until fourth down. If Team A scores a touchdown in less than four downs then team B must score in the same number of downs. There will be PAT attempts.

THE BREAKDOWN:

- A. Each team will have a possession Exception: Team B intercepts a pass or fumble and returns it for a score. Game over.
- B. Ball will be placed on the 20-yard line. No 1st down possible.
- C. Team A cannot attempt a field goal until 4th down.
- D. If a touchdown is scored by the first team in overtime on either 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th down the team on defense must match the down and the score or be declared the loser.
- E. If no touchdown was scored by the first team in overtime, the defense can waive the first three downs and choose a fourth down to attempt a field goal to win the game.
- F. PAT attempts will be from the 2-yard line.
- G. The defense can return an interception or a fumble for a score. A scrimmage down returned for a touchdown = 6 points. A returned PAT = 1 point.
- H. If you score a touchdown and on the try Team B intercepts and returns it for a score, they get one point and the ball on the 20-yard line for a chance to win. Exception: When the team that was on defense first has a PAT returned for a score after the original offensive team had already scored. Example: Team A scores a TD = 6 points but misses the PAT. Team B scores a TD = 6 points. On their PAT, Team A intercepts a pass and returns it for a 1-point score. Team A wins 7-6.
- I. If neither team scores or both teams score the same number of points overtime will continue until a winner is declared. The team on defense during the first overtime will be on offense for the second overtime.



Kill The Guy With The Ball!!!

XFL 2001 Weekly Schedule

| Week 1 | | Week 2 | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| NY/NJ Hitmen @ Las Vegas Outlaws | Saturday Feb 3, 8PM | Chicago Enforcers @ LA Xtreme | Saturday Feb 10, 8PM |
| Chicago Enforcers @ Orlando Rage | Saturday Feb 3, 8PM | SF Demons @ Orlando Rage | Saturday Feb 10, 8PM |
| Memphis Maniax @ Birmingham Bolts | Sunday Feb 4, TBA | Birmingham Bolts @ NY/NJ Hitmen | Sunday Feb 11, 4PM |
| LA Xtreme @ San Francisco Demons | Sunday Feb 4, 4PM | Las Vegas Outlaws @ Memphis Maniax | Sunday Feb 11, 7PM |
| Week 3 | | Week 4 | |
| SF Demons @ Memphis Maniax | Saturday Feb 17, 8PM | NY/NJ Hitmen @ Chicago Enforcers | Saturday Feb 24, 8PM |
| LA Xtreme @ Las Vegas Outlaws | Saturday Feb 17, 8PM | Birmingham Bolts @ Orlando Rage | Saturday Feb 24, 8PM |
| Chicago Enforcers @ Birmingham Bolts | Sunday Feb 18, 4PM | Las Vegas @ SF Demons | Sunday Feb 25, 4PM |
| Orlando Rage @ NY/NJ Hitmen | Sunday Feb 18, 7PM | Memphis Maniax @ LA Xtreme | Sunday Feb 25, 7PM |
| Week 5 | | Week 6 | |
| LA Xtreme @ NY/NJ Hitmen | Saturday Mar 3, 8PM | Las Vegas Outlaws @ Orlando Rage | Saturday Mar 10, 8PM |
| Birmingham Bolts @ SF Demons | Saturday Mar 3, 8PM | Chicago Enforcers @ Memphis Maniax | Saturday Mar 10, 8PM |
| Las Vegas Outlaws @ Chicago Enforcers | Sunday Mar 4, 4PM | NY/NJ Hitmen @ SF Demons | Sunday March 11, 4PM |
| Orlando Rage @ Memphis Maniax | Sunday Mar 4, 7PM | LA Xtreme @ Birmingham Bolts | Sunday March 11, 7PM |
| Week 7 | | Week 8 | |
| Memphis Maniax @ NY/NJ Hitmen | Saturday Mar 17, 8PM | Las Vegas Outlaws @ LA Xtreme | Saturday Mar 24, 8PM |
| Birmingham Bolts @ Las Vegas Outlaws | Saturday Mar 17, 8PM | Memphis Maniax @ SF Demons | Saturday Mar 24, 8PM |
| Orlando Rage @ LA Xtreme | Sunday Mar 18, 4PM | NY/NJ Hitmen @ Orlando Rage | Sunday Mar 25, 4PM |
| SF Demons @ Chicago Enforcers | Sunday Mar 18, 7PM | Birmingham Bolts @ Chicago Enforcers | Sunday Mar 25, 7PM |
| Week 9 | | Week 10 | |
| Chicago Enforcers @ NY/NJ Hitmen | Saturday March 31, 8PM | Orlando Rage @ Chicago Enforcers | Saturday April 7, 8PM |
| Orlando Rage @ Birmingham Bolts | Saturday March 31, 8PM | Memphis Maniax @ Las Vegas Outlaws | Saturday April 7, 8PM |
| LA Xtreme @ Memphis Maniax | Sunday April 1, 4PM | NY/NJ Hitmen @ Birmingham Bolts | Sunday April 8, 4PM |
| SF Demons @ Las Vegas Outlaws | Sunday April 1, 7PM | SF Demons @ LA Xtreme | Sunday April 8, 7PM |



Will He Fail?

Everyone seems to be down on the XFL for the main reason that multi-billionaire Vince McMahon is the brains behind the operation. Most people figure the XFL will be nothing more than sports entertainment like his WWF. What they fail to realize is that Vince McMahon (pictured above... as if you didn't know) is the one man that took professional wrestling from a small regional touring sport to the mainstream, creating the largest sports entertainment empire around. Vince has probably the best chance at pulling the XFL off as he is a marketing and promotional wizard. The XFL may not be for everyone, but there are enough people out there that want to see some real football that I am sure the league will last.

Frequently Asked XFL Questions

1. What will be the base compensation in the XFL?

In the XFL, kicking specialist base salary will be approximately \$35,000 for a ten game season, quarterbacks base salary will be approximately \$50,000, and all players at other positions will be paid approximately \$45,000 in base salary.

2. How does the XFL bonus system work?

XFL players may be able to increase their earnings through bonus payments earned during the XFL season. Each XFL player on the active roster of a team winning an XFL regular season game will receive an incentive bonus of approximately \$2,500 for each win. The active players on the championship XFL team will receive a \$25,000 bonus. Other bonuses may be available as determined by the XFL.

3. What is the term of the XFL contract?

The XFL contract term is six months with a League option for an additional year.

4. How are players allocated to specific teams by the XFL?

For the 2001 season, players will initially enter the XFL through the XFL Player Allocation and Selection System (P.A.S.S.). A number of players will be allocated through territorial allocation, however, the majority of players will be drafted into the XFL through the XFL Draft which will begin in Chicago on October 28th, 2000.

5. Do XFL teams have mini-camps?

The XFL has tentatively scheduled two mini-camps for each XFL team this fall. All eight XFL teams will hold their mini-camps in their respective cities. The first mini-camp is scheduled for November 13th, 2000 through November 20th, 2000. The second mini-camp is scheduled for December 11th, 2000 through December 18th, 2000.

6. How long is training camp in the XFL?

XFL Training camps will run from January 2nd, 2001 until January 28th, 2001.

7. How many players go to training camp in the XFL?

For the 2001 season each XFL team will carry 70 players into training camp. The teams will cut to 63 on January 14th 2001 and to 55 on January 21st, 2001. XFL rosters will be finalized with 38 active players and 7 practice squad players on January 28th, 2001.

8. When does the XFL season start?

The XFL season begins in February 3rd, 2001 and ends on April 21st, 2001, with the inaugural XFL Championship Game.

They're Not Cheerleaders ... But They Play Them On TV

When the XFL kicks-off on February 3, 2001, you can bet that the raw energy created by the debut of the newest professional sports league won't only be attributable to the players. In the grand tradition of American football, there's one thing that always generates some heat and excitement, the cheerleaders.

Since the XFL's cheerleaders will not be your typical beauty-queen wannabes, the woman chosen to star in the ads had to embody the same sort of natural charisma and enthusiasm that the XFL will seek in its cheerleaders, as well as, its players. And did we mention that the XFL Cheerleaders will also be really, really hot?

Such a fact was not lost on The NBC Agency, which recently produced a series of eye-popping promos featuring women portraying the other stars of the new league - the XFL Cheerleaders. The campaign was conceived under the direction of John Miller, president of The NBC Agency, and Vince Manze, executive vice president/creative director. With WWF Entertainment's David Sahadi as a consultant, The NBC Agency has created a campaign that is sexy yet clever and smart—definitely a difficult task.

Recognizing that the sideline



entertainment will garner as much attention as the action on the field, co-directors Joe Livecchi and John Bonito of NBC 2000 thought it would be a natural tie-in to introduce the world to the XFL cheerleaders by placing them in a variety of football-related settings. Their biggest challenge was to keep the footage of the women 'tame' enough for all audiences.

One revealing promo, "Shower", is a parody of the 'bits n pieces' choreography from Austin Powers fame and uses a continuous tracking shot of the cheerleaders

washing up after a game. According to Livecchi, "There was a lot of nakedness. Finding what falls within what's acceptable for television was somewhat of a challenge." He's not kidding. The spot required 28-takes to ensure that they had enough "airable" material to make it past the censors.

Other spots show the individuality and umm...attributes...of each XFL Cheerleader. Livecchi acknowledges that, in the end, "We knew were pushing the line a little bit, which is after all, what the XFL is all about."

Check Out www.XFL.com
for more information on the XFL's rules,
games, teams and players

REALITY TELEVISION...

Real TV : How Real Is It?

Sarah Hamelin
Ass't Features Editor

About ten years ago some genius at MTV came up with a marvelous idea, or at least what he may have thought to be one. Why not create a television series that allows us to peek into the real lives of a group of people and see what makes them tick? It could be made uncut, uncensored, and be totally real. Sure, seemed like a great idea, but really how much of that actually worked out?

To a certain degree, it remains uncut. But due to television standards, the audience doesn't want to see... blah blah. Sufficeit to say, a good deal of content gets cut out. Think of it this way; The Real World released one episode per week, which was a half hour in length. In one week, there are seven days, with twenty-four hours a piece. This gives you a total of one hundred and sixty eight hours of Real World life. Of course, people sleep, so let's estimate about eight hours a night. That makes about fifty six hours a week of sleep, and leaves us with one hundred and twelve hours of Real World life. This means, six thousand, seven hundred and twenty minutes of Real World life is edited down into about twenty minutes of television Real World. That's six thousand seven minutes that we don't see.

To solve this problem, the shows will edit over and over again to ensure that they get the juiciest scenes to put on the air, but that of course satisfy programming standards. This naturally means no visible sex, as well as no nudity. However, if they are say cuddling and covered, then they appear to be okay. But it's not so much the sex that gets aired the most often, but the arguing and catfights.

This is where the uncensoring shows its lack of validity in the scheme of the show. You get angry and upset, for the most part people tend to cuss. And for some of us, a lot more than others. Same applies to real people on television. Some arguments will have every other word censored out due to its hostile, and profane nature. Not only will the audience be sitting there trying to figure out exactly what the person was saying by word substitution, but also be amused by the frequency of the beeping. So in a sense, this part of the show does contain elements of reality. People swear in real life, as they do on camera.

But when it comes right down to it, all we end up seeing are the really nitty gritty details of their lives. Unless there is sufficient romantic interludes between characters, there is really nothing exciting that happens to keep viewers' interests locked on the show. This is why the dirty arguments get aired and viewed by millions of people each week, simply to keep them tuned in.

Despite the fact that the network's methods are perhaps not the most moralistic ones out there, they do however rake in millions of dollars a year off the lives of a few people whom were lucky enough to be cast on the program. Whatever they are doing clearly appeals to the masses, so it seems doubtful that this trend is going to die out anytime in the near future.

Indulging The Inner Voyeur

How exciting is watching a person do laundry, or cooking bacon? Not exactly mind-blowing. Well, if the person was naked, then maybe... But people don't do those type of things. And even if they did, the network couldn't air it anyway. People say that sex sells. True, but when you can't sell sex, what's left?

Animosity, betrayal, and pain. Viewers like to hate characters, loathe others, and sympathize with few. There are of course the ones people like, but usually there is a hidden reason behind it. Unlike on fictional shows, these are real people. They are not reading off a script, nor are they being lead to behave in a certain way. We're seeing the human behavior in its purest form. We're not watching a two-dimensional character, we're watching an actual person. And this seems to be what motivates us to watch it.

Everyone has a bit of a voyeuristic nature in them, and this new brand of television programming gives people a chance to embrace this part of them. Movies can do this for a person, but only to a certain extent. You know the characters is made up, and that it's not realism for the most part. And though reality tv, like movies, only is so real, it also contains real emotions being expressed. How they react is how they feel. The tears they shed aren't strategically initiated, they're actually real. Everything about the people is, real.

The voyeuristic view is a safe one for people because they can sit there and watch the deepest and most private details of a person's life, and empathize with them, without ever having to go through the situation themselves. They can watch two people fall in love, or grow to hate one another until they're throwing furniture at one another. It gives you a chance to play the third party and watch the deepest, and sometimes more humiliating, moments of a person's life unfold without ever having to leave the comfort of your own home.

By human nature, we are simply curious. We tend to feed off rumors and gossip like hungry animals. For some reason, it seems that watching the lives of others fall to shambles actually makes us feel a little better about ourselves, and the thing we call a life. It's become entertainment, and because of this it's considered the best part of prime-time lineups. Networks are making millions off the pitfalls of the lives of real people, and we eat it up like it's cheap Chinese take out.

And Reality TV Sucks Because Of...

If you have never heard of Big Brother, what rock have you been living under for over the past year? As many of us know, when one network hears about some new show that another has, they try to counteract it by making the exact same kind of show, but with different people and a slightly altered plot line. But ironically, Big Brother was also created, and produced by CBS. So while the creators might have thought the premise of Big Brother was ingenious, really it was probably a bigger screw up than anyone could have imagined.

The show stuck about ten people in a house with cameras set up in every room (and I mean *every* room) so that they would be videotaped at all times doing anything that they might do normally, or out of the ordinary. When they signed onto this program, they really did relinquish every little trace of privacy they had. Even going to the bathroom was being videotaped. What exactly is the point behind this, no one knows, but someone must have thought it would be a funny joke. Ha, ha.

As if the poor lack of an audience wasn't enough to send the message to network executives about the error of their ways, the threat of the



They Should Have Stayed Locked In!

remaining members of the household to just up and walk out probably made the point obnoxiously clear. Of course, it didn't happen, but the impending threat seemed to shake them up enough, along with disappoint the majority of the population because they were clearly lying through their teeth about doing it, and furthermore stayed until the show correctly ended. The madness never ended! Instead, it lasted for a total eighty-seven days, which is more than double the length of most other shows.

Now a cool twist however to the show was that house members were not ejected by their peers, but

instead by the audience of the show. So, instead of yelling at your set at the idiots who voted the wrong person off, you could actually be one of those idiots! American television is really an amazing thing.

And following the grand tradition of reality tv shows handing out prizes, the most offensive and perhaps least deserving person ended up with the prize. The worst part of the irony is that the same people who whined and complained with Richard won on Survivor never bothered to vote this guy out of the house.

Like all these shows, they covered the broad scope of personalities so that everyone had someone to love or hate. There were the serious people with the serious jobs, and those that were laid back and seemed like the type to have jobs at McDonald's. The ones you love, the ones you hate, and the ones you just love to hate. Clearly the winner was one of the latter, considering he made it so far into the program.

What it seems to come down to in the end is proof that it's the sly and most undeserving people in life that get all the breaks. Maybe that's a factor into why this show flopped so bad; some people just don't want to see the truth.

The Mole

Though it may have taken awhile, ABC finally found a way to create a reality tv show that is different from all the others. Though it may not seem nearly as addictive as the new show Temptation Island, they will nonetheless find success for their originality with The Mole.

The commercials advertising the show aren't exactly the most descriptive on the market, but they do seem to get the main idea of the show across in a semi-logical form. The cast consists of ten people, five men and 5 women, which are swept off to a new location each week where they have to complete specific tasks. As they advertise it, ten players, visiting four countries on two continents, with an amazing total of thirty-four cities in twenty-eight days.

The game tends to encourage and insist upon teamwork, rewarding the players with a prize at the end, making it seem worthwhile. For each task completed, they are given a sum of money.

The problem here is that one member is not all that he/she appears to be. The mole is a member of the group that was strategically put there to ensure that the mission will not be completed as planned. If they succeed in sabotaging the mission, then the group misses out on their prize money. This is why it is essential that while completing their mission, they also have to try and figure out who amongst them is the mole.

To make the show more interesting, there is the elimination of a player every few days. This is done



Who cares who The Mole is... they thought they were going to be on Survivor II.

by the contestants being quizzed about the mole. Imagine how hard this is, considering that for the most part they don't have a clue who it is, and they are quizzed on questions such as the mole's sex, what they had for breakfast, where he/she is from... personal details that, for the most part, they couldn't possibly know. So what it comes down to is being able to make lucky guesses.

The person who has the worst luck, that is, gets the most questions wrong, ends up having to leave the group. They are from there ejected from the game, losing their chance at a chunk of the money. This continues from until they are down to three players; two of whom are contestants, and the mole. Then another quiz is taken, at which point another of the contestants is sent home. The contestant that is left

wins the prize money.

A player can, at any point, take a guess at who the mole is, but if they wager wrong, then they are automatically ejected from the game. Hence with strong suspicions, a person could actually make it to the end if they make the effort to learn as much as they possibly could about the person whom they suspect to be the mole amongst them.

The show itself is rather interesting because the challenges/tasks set before them require not only physical endurance, but also mental skill to be able to logically figure out the problems, as well as the mole. Being more of a game where brains prevail, and not popularity, it's set to be one of the better reality tv shows to be on the air this year. So keep your eye on it, and see if you can figure out who the mole is yourself.

Next Week... *The ANTI-Valentines Issue*

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO FAKING IT?

Could You **Survive?**

Of all the new shows that emerged last year from the tv networks, who would have thought that CBS would have come out with one of the most successful of them all? Well, by some twist of fate, that's exactly what happened. CBS had apparently bought the rights to the script of a real life drama called Survivor.

The plot of the show was pretty simple, and was totally fresh idea. Networks love fresh ideas, so of course it was snatched up immediately. It's a pretty basic script considering that most of it is unpredictable. Focusing on how the players behave, and their decisions, there is little left to plan other than the events that are to take place over the period of time that the series would run.

The premise of the show was pretty much already there: take sixteen people, divide them into two groups (which will be called tribes), and have them meet every three days to undergo two different challenges. For the first, the reward challenge, the winner is graced with a prize, such as hammocks, towels, chickens; something that they would ordinarily not have in the wild. The second, however, consists of the immunity challenge, which had a little more risk than the first. In the immunity challenge, the loser would have to attend a tribal council that evening and vote off a member of their team. Since most people hate having to turn on friends, the incentive here is to do well so you don't have to vote anyone off. The reward is another three days with your new buddies.

Once they get down to ten players, the two tribes merge to form one. And from here on out, it's every man, and woman, for his or herself. Reward challenges remain, as do



immunity, and it's pretty much a free for all to make it into the final two. Every player ends up with a little money, but second prize is \$100,000, which is sweet, but pales next to the \$1,000,000 the winner receives.

So with that down, all that's left is location and players. The location would clearly have to be isolated enough so that no media could get through, nor could any players sneak away for a Big Mac in between scenes, but not so isolated that it would pose problems if help was needed, or conditions that could severely threaten the lives of the players. So producers settled on the inhabited island of Pulau Tiga. Set in a warmer climate, it leaves the players with the ability to wear more comfortable clothing and not have to worry about freezing to death, nor of dying of heat exhaustion. So all that was left now was the players themselves.

Advertizing over radios nationwide was how CBS got its entries. People were asked to submit a videocassette as their tryout, and from the piles of cassettes received they picked their sixteen contestants. Their

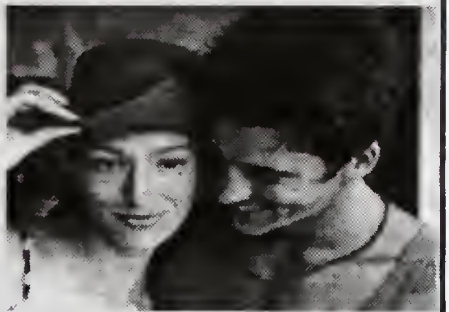
ages varied by about 50 years, with the youngest two being 22, and the oldest being 72. It seemed that producers were trying to get as broad a range of characters as possible. What they ended up with was, well, surprising.

Despite what many people thought, and just as many were outraged over, it was the most outright devious and deceptive person that won. He never even tried to hide it! He was a jerk, and everyone knew it, and they still voted for him! But the contestants had spoken, and the money was dished out, much to the dismay of the viewers.

Being such a hit, the networks naturally brought the show back for a second season, which started Superbowl Sunday. There are sixteen new contestants, and this time around they're set in the Australian Outback. It seems same rules apply, and same monetary prizes will be given out. Hell, even the contestants seem the same. So pretty much expect for a season that is pretty much a repeat of the last. But as far as tv goes, that's nothing really new, is it?

Temptation Island

Due to the success of shows like Survivor, networks have naturally started popping out a new line of reality tv shows. One of the shows they expected the most success from this season was Temptation Island. However, things haven't been going exactly as they may have planned, considering it ranked ninth in the last set of Nielsen ratings.



Like Survivor I, it sees a group of people taken to an exotic island location. The twist however, is that the main contestants on the show are four couples. The remaining twenty-six contestants are single people who are looking for a chance at romance with the right person. So how does this tie into the plot line? Well, it is the basis of the show.

Once on the island, the couples are separated into two groups: the men, and the women. From here on out, they don't see each other for the next two weeks except via videocassette recordings sent to their mate on the other side of the island. However, it's not like they're out of contact with the male species. During this time they have to go out on three dates with some of the eligible bachelors on the island. Like during their spare time, their dates are being recorded the whole time, which leads to another twist in the plot of the show.

The males follow the same process of dating and lack of contact as the females. As well, their dates are recorded. This presents the couples with an option: they can choose to watch the date their mate has gone on, with the condition that the mate has to watch the tape of their date as well. It enters the question as to if it's better to know, or to not know. Thus far in the series, it's been about fifty-fifty that choose to watch, and choose not to.

Each week, the groups must vote a member of the opposite sex (that is single) off the island. Thus far, the body count is three and three for both sexes, though one female left by choice, leaving the men with no need to vote that week.

The whole point to the show seems to be (aside from stealing viewers from other shows) to determine whether or not the couples will end up being together despite all the possibilities thrown around them. At the end of the two weeks on the island, they have to decide whether it would be better for them to go their separate ways, or to continue on with their relationships as planned. The couples that were chosen have each been together for a long time (one even has a child together), so perhaps we could say that this is an experiment into how strong love can be, or how much jealousy can a person bottle up for the sake of their relationship.

Either way, the show is indeed having an impact on the relationships, even in its primary stages. One is already pretty much not talking to one another. For another couple, watching one of the videotapes has upset one of the two, leaving the audience wondering what will happen there. For the other two, well it seems hard, but they also seem willing to stick it out and take it all with a grain of salt. However, for how much longer this can go on, well no one really knows.

Whether or not it'll be a success, you have to admit it is a pretty

interesting idea for a television series. Though everyone is roughly the same age, being generally between 22 and 34, it's isn't exactly what you can call a reality tv because of this. Where are the older men? Hell, where's Rudy? One contestant complained about her date being too young, perhaps that's just the kind of twist they could use to ensure high ratings during sweeps time.



eventually. But at the same time it is, for constantly bringing on people who are just like those from the previous year, but just look a little different.

MTV has organized a reunion for this show, to entertain their audience with where the old cast members have ended up in their lives. Apparently, some of the couples that formed over the series are still together. Many of the cast are still friends. But would all of them agree that it was a positive experience? Well, you'll just have to watch to find out.

**CHECK YOUR
LOCAL
LISTINGS
FOR THESE
AND MORE
REALITY
SHOWS... THAT
IS UNLESS
YOU ACTUALLY
GO OUTSIDE!**

THE REAL WORLD

Every trend has to start somewhere, and reality tv started with The Real World. After nine series in nine different cities with different cast members in each house, MTV definitely found a good thing and found way to drag it out so that it kept going, and going, and of course, going.

The series has a long history of heartaches and heartwarmers, whether it be the tears shed or cast members cozying up, the series has actually managed to develop a clan of followers who would be lost without their weekly dose of 'The Real World'. All in all, to have lasted this long, one can say that it's a pretty successful venture.

MTV hasn't necessarily restricted the settings of the shows to the United States exclusively. True, most of the set-ups have been in places like Miami, Los Angeles, Seattle, and New York, but there was actually one season where the cast was set up in a nice pad in London. However, the locations do always seem to be limited to big, urbanized cities. The show probably wouldn't be nearly as appealing if they were living on uncle Bob's pig farm.

For the most part, the series consisted of MTV sorting through the thousands of applications that they would receive yearly for the upcoming season of The Real World, to find seven individuals that seem to be, well, pretty much as opposite of one another as humanly possible. The adults (the ages typically range from about 20 to 28) come from just as broad a range of backgrounds, as well as from different locations all over their great nation (aka the USA). The exception here lies with the season in London, where the cast consisted of a people from the world around. Though the tally still ringed up a total of three Americans, there were two from Britain, one from Germany, and one Australian.

For each season there seems to always be two members of the household (of the opposite sexes) that end up getting involved. It doesn't necessarily always work out in the end, but considering that they are placed into a house together, for five months, it's rather safe to presume that of the seven people in there at least two are going to try and do something. In some cases, the people

who end up hooking up aren't even single, and try to figure out ways to juggle the person back home with keeping their present companion in their bed. Considering it's on tv, what do you think the odds are of this working out in the end?

And accompanying the steamy romance scenes, there are of course the off-the-wall arguments that keep people tuned in. Who hasn't heard of at least one major fight that has broken out between characters on the show? The most talked about one still seems to be the tiff between Irene and Stephen on season 7 in Seattle, where it got so ugly that actual physical violence lead to one member leaving, while the other was kicked out. So it's pretty much safe to say that the show gives us quite a bit of both extremes.

But like all good things, with time they sour. The show's popularity appears to have decreased some with time passing, plus due to the sudden onslaught of programs with a similar basis that is emerging on televisions all over the world. It's not really the producers fault, all good things must come to an end

Hop in the Ring with



by Nick Stewart
Entertainment Editor

No matter how you look at it, there's just something innately cool about robots. No, I'm not talking about those stupid little fang-less electronic robot dogs that are somehow more annoying than real ones, or even Al Gore. No, I'm referring to the kinds you see in sci-fi movies, the ones whose "Kill Chips" haven't been removed, and you just know are eventually going to snap and start mauling people. Let's face it: there's just this bizarre attraction that surrounds violent robots. There are probably psychological studies out there somewhere to support the link, but just take a look at our past: from the Rock 'Em Sock 'Em 'bots to the two different ultra-funky flavors of Terminator, some of our greatest geeky, sci-fi, pseudo-macho memories have come from Wonders Of Science That

Have Gone Horribly, Horribly Wrong. Unfortunately, there's a distinct lack of this very special kind of entertainment in recent times, unless you count Furby-mauling. Well, Canada's own Comedy Network is looking to change all that with the import of the U.S.-bred BattleBots.

In order to try and understand what BattleBots really is all about, imagine that one of those robotic engineering competitions you always find as you pass over The Learning Channel suddenly allowed the designers to smoke massive amounts of crack. Instead of creating robots that can lift the most weight, or build the biggest bridge of popsicle sticks using only its robotic limbs, the designers put together Machines of Death that are created for one thing and one thing only: to reduce their opponents

to scrap metal in three minutes or less. Instead of letting their creations duke it out on a gym floor, the robots take each other on in the "BattleBox". Sure, it sounds wimpy, but one look at 48' x 48' frame with its 20-foot-tall walls, the buzzsaws that leap out of the floor, the sledgehammers that pop out of the barriers, spikes that poke out of the floor and ramps that can flip the bots over, the Box looks less like a cage and more like ThunderDome. This, more or less, is the setup for BattleBots, which is Comedy Central's #2 ranked show, second only to South Park.

I know what you're thinking, and yeah, dueling robots does sound a little unimpressive. After all, how destructive can home-made robots really be? After watching a few matches, you'd be awfully surprised. Split up into lightweight, middleweight, heavyweight and super-heavyweight categories, these Bots of Doom are a lot more deadly and violent than you'd think. Armed with three-and-a-half-foot buzzsaws, axes, flails, attack chisels, pneumatic drills, and much more, these creations range from 55 to 450 pounds, and are packed to the gills with power that can tow up to three cars and tear through steel like butter.

Take a look at a few of the matches to get a true idea of how this futuristic sport really works. For example, a hammer-and-spear wielding bot circles the ring, dodging buzzsaws and spikes that occasionally pop out of the arena, as it tries to pummel its innocent-looking, tiny disc-like foe. As its thrashing hammers zoom in for the kill, ready to mash the small bot into bits, the disc begins to spin, flailing its dangling spikes at 550 rpm, knocking aside the hammer and tearing off the offender's wheels in the process. With his opponent crippled, the spinner can now attack with impunity, and does, crashing into it repeatedly, send sparks and metal flying...shredding the frame, tearing into the motor, ripping into it for about \$1200 of damage...just to show who's boss. As if the defeat wasn't hard enough, a buzzsaw leaps out of the floor, cleaving the dead bot in two; the crowd roars in approval.

Of course, with a three-minute time limit, not all matches end with a robot's demise. Since the matches

are all part of a San Francisco-based (and later on in the series, Las Vegas-based) tournament, there can't be any draws, either. For this reason, there's a boxing-like system in place, dictating that a certain number of crashes, jabs, and hazard (forcing your opponent into the rotating saws, hammers, or other aspects of the BattleBox) points can win you the match should both bots be left standing.

Each episode of BattleBots is 30 minutes long, and features three matches apiece. As each match is three minutes, this leaves an awful lot of space to fill; however, to prevent it from ever feeling like dead weight, the show takes a very "sports satire" attitude. Treating the matter like it was a boxing match or NFL game, the show opens with its two commentators, former CFL quarterback Sean Salisbury and Ski School 2 alumni Bil Dwyer, sitting behind a desk and discussing the upcoming competitors and their matches. Science Guru Bill Nye acts as the show's technical advisor, and occasionally runs down a list of stats for a given 'bot, filled with such ultra-cheesy terms as "This bot is dressed to impress, distress and destroy all challengers." There are even short segments on the creator/controllers of the various bots, showing the rocket scientists, engineers, and garage hippies that compete in the events. Hell, even former Baywatcher Donna

D'Errico gets in on the action, acting as a ring-side interviewer alongside stand-up comedians Jason and Randy Sklar.

Yes, BattleBots is a weird show. A very weird show. However, there's no denying that the sight of one robot hammering the living circuits out of another hapless bot is about as cool as anything on television, and is the closest thing that you'll get to seeing engineers fighting to the death. Combining a wacky sense of humor with the thrill of live combat, this show manages to bring intellectual design strategies into a theater of destruction. There's a reason this show airs on Saturdays at midnight; these things may be robots, but the sparks and shredding, tearing, flying metal are very real, and very, very violent. Just think of it as Bloodsport for homicidal, maniacal geeks and mad scientists (this is a good thing). Even Jay Leno has jumped into this sport with both feet, creating his own "Chin-Killa" that even managed to trash a few of the championship-winning heavyweights during a couple exposition matches in the most recent tournament. It just goes to show that, in BattleBots' futuristic arena, a few seconds is all it takes for hundreds of hours and thousands of dollars worth of work to be reduced to a smoking pile of aluminum...and it's about time.

Canadian BattleBot Competitors

Derek Young

Name: Pressure Drop
Class: Middleweight Stompbot
Weight: 173 lbs.
Mobility: Six legs
Powersource: 1 12v 16ah sealed lead acid battery and an 18-cell nicad battery pack
Weapon: Rock chisel riding on the end of a titanium shaft, powered by a custom-wound torsion spring
Special Features: Control systems for the weapon, turret and walking gait based around a custom-built circuit board
Cost: \$2500
Time to Build: 6 months
Addendum: His use of this bot led him to be named 'Most Hated Driver in the Competition'.

Name: Complete Control
Class: Middleweight
Weight: 113 lbs
Mobility: Wheeled
Powersource: 2 12v 13ah sealed lead acid batteries
Weapon: Welded chromoly lifting forks
Special Features: Lifting forks can theoretically lift 240 lbs at the tip of the forks. Almost all of the robot is held together with bolts in tapped aluminum, resulting in less than 10 nuts present in the total robot.
Cost: \$3000+
Time to Build: 2 months

Erik Hagman

Name: BumperBawt
Class: Middleweight (59 - 115 lbs wheeled, 88-173 lbs walker)
Weight: 86 lbs
Mobility: Wheeled
Powersource: Battery
Weapon: 1,500 lb pneumatic pushing ram
Special Features: Scrolling LED taunt sign
Cost: \$4000 in supplies and parts (labour and radio not included)
Time to Build: 3 weeks from concept to shipping (approx. 150 hours, not including preliminary design and conceptualization)

How to Build a BattleBot in Seven Easy Steps

1. First, figure out what you want to do to your opponent; flip 'em, cut 'em, smash 'em, slice 'em, crush 'em, whatever.
2. Then build your base; steel, aluminum, titanium, plastic.
3. Find some wheels, put some bearings on there; wheel bearings, roller bearings, tapered roller bearings, thrust bearings, bushings.
4. Select your power supply - your batteries; nicads, ge: cells, gas engines. Maybe you want hydraulics.
5. Then find the parts you need. Figure out the mechanics you need to put it together, pneumatics, motors, linear actuators.
6. Build your control system. Do you need H-bridges, relays, servos, motor controllers, etc. What kind of radio?
7. Mount your weapons and armor. Stand back - if it works, get to the event on time.



STUDENT SAVER SATURDAYS

Come See What the Buzz is All About!

This Week's DJs:
Thursday - DJ HUGH
Friday - DJ MAT
Saturday - DJ COBB

FREE POOL
Friday Nights

DJs every Wednesday through Saturday Nights

Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon

by Eric Malette
Contributor

Ang Lee's *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* is, quite simply, the finest movie I've seen all year. It's an epic adventure about the life of rogue warriors, their romantic relationships, and spiritual enlightenment through the use of an artful, yet deadly style of melee combat. This movie comes as a complete surprise; although Ang Lee is Chinese, his mainstream movies like *Sense and Sensibility* and *Ride With the Devil* appeal to entirely different audiences, even when the core content of all three of these films share similar themes.

The film begins with the introduction of two central characters, Li Mu Bai, played by Hong Kong superstar Chow Yun-Fat, and Shu Lien, portrayed by stunt queen Michelle Yeoh. The two characters share an interesting relationship: they are of the same warrior class, and have both fallen deeply in love with each other. The subtle performances by Yun-Fat and Yeoh give such remarkable insight into their relationship that exposition is not really needed; the eyes of the actors provide enough feeling and knowing to give the audience more than it needs to determine that they need each other.

The plot begins when Li Mu Bai visits Shu Lien and requests that she deliver his Green Destiny sword to Sir Te, an old friend who has been a great comrade to Li Mu throughout the years of his mercenary career. Li Mu is tired of the lifestyle that he leads; he wants to settle down, and although he never manages to fully articulate it, he wants Shu Lien to settle down with him.

Shu Lien delivers the Green Destiny to Sir Te and is invited to stay

for the evening. Also visiting Sir Te is the Governor of the province and his wistful daughter, Jen Yu. Shu Lien meets with Jen Yu, who wants so much to be like Shu Lien, but is to enter an arranged marriage—a life that will afford her very few opportunities for adventuring and fighting. Jen Yu is played by newcomer Zhang Ziyi, a beautiful young actress who, I'm sure, will have a wonderful career in acting. Her presence is not overshadowed by Michelle Yeoh or Chow Yun-Fat; she holds her own in every scene. The Green Destiny sword is stolen soon after by an unknown, highly skilled thief. The movie then unfolds into a wonderfully well-paced romantic-action extravaganza.

Romance-action? Okay, perhaps this description is somewhat misleading. Braveheart was never described in such a way. *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* fits this description because of the one-on-one Kung Fu sequences that surround its deeply romantic plot. The fight sequences in the movie were choreographed by *The Matrix's* Wu Ping Yuen, a 30-year veteran of the film industry. (It was Wu Ping who directed the movies that made Jackie Chan famous in the late 70s.) The fights are spectacular, of course, but remarkably more far-fetched than the sequences in *The Matrix*. In *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*, the characters not only move with the speed of Neo, they also climb walls with greater ease than that of Spiderman.

Will you like *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*? That question is difficult to answer. The discriminating art-house movie fanatic will probably hold this flick above the many others that were released this

year. The people who enjoy the myriad mindless romance pictures that arrive every year may not care for the staggeringly supernatural grace of the characters. Fans of traditional action flicks like *Mission Impossible 2* might not appreciate the heartfelt romance between the characters—the true focal point of the movie—or the sometimes unhurried pacing between action sequences.

Oh, and the movie is subtitled. Personally, I much prefer the subtitles to "cheesy" over-dubbing. I've seen countless Kung Fu flicks where the dubbing makes the scenes between fighting nearly unbearable. Earlier this year, *Legend of the Drunken Master* debuted for the first time in North America. The movie was perhaps the finest ever from Jackie Chan, but the cartoonish dubbing made the dialogue laughable. In *Crouching Tiger*, all the emotion is kept intact within the original Mandarin language.

I'm grateful Ang Lee has combined his considerable talents as a director with his cultural heritage. Finally, a Kung Fu movie with real depth! He's capable of extracting the maximum potential from his actors; Chow Yun-Fat's presentation came as no surprise, but to have Michelle Yeoh and Zhang Ziyi deliver such unforgettable performances is quite an achievement. I'll no longer think of Yeoh as a stuntwoman, and I'll be biting my fingernails in anticipation of Zhang Ziyi's next appearance in North America. With these great performances comes a bonus: the coolest action to ever grace the screen. This is one movie that I'll never forget, and is definitely going to be one for my DVD collection.



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Take three breaths and don't allow yourself to get caught up in the petty problems of another, you've got your own! You've always been somewhat of a risk-taker. At this time there's nothing that you won't do. Watch out for steep drops, sudden turns, and sharp corners.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Good things are about to happen, but with your luck these days, you might actually miss it. Plan to hang-out with friends and reminisce over the 'good old days', even if at times they weren't all that good. Clear out the old and make room for the new, but always keep your memories.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

Slow and steady is your motto for the week. Recognize the familiar parts of your surroundings, some of them are old favourites. Prepare yourself for some big changes that are right around the corner. This might sound intriguing, but it's not what it seems.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

Make sure everyone is having as much fun as you are; if not, kick their butts! Your cheery mood will help you get whatever and or whomever you want. Think very carefully before saying yes to something you don't understand. Ignore the demands of work for once.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

The time is right to try something new!. Resist your temptation to go with what you know, and do something wildly spontaneous. Test out your newfound self-confidence, or be boring (it's your choice). Be careful with what you say to certain people.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

A romantic gesture will most likely leave you blushing. Don't worry, everybody will notice, you don't have to say a word. On the other hand, your tactical skills need some work. Don't be afraid to ask, especially when you can't see what needs work.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Charm is your middle name, or so you like to think. It just might be time to get a new one. You must go your own way this time. Don't let anybody cling, especially yourself. Make yourself take the path less hiked. Just remember, leaves of 3 let them be!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

An old friend or acquaintance makes a very unexpected appearance. People seem to have their guard up against you, so say something funny. Leave nothing to chance, dance a jig if you have to. Hell, ask them to join in. The Hokey-Pokey works too.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

The world is an enormous playground and everybody is out for recess! It's your choice to play one of the old favourites! Listen close to a friend, but you might have to read between the lines. Advice or a shoulder, either way, be there for them. Make 'em smile.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Try not to get too frazzled by minor kinks that are thrown into your plans. If you choose to take a break now, you might regret it later, and you know that regrets aren't the name of the game! Someone pulls away, just as you were getting closer. Try not to worry, and let things go their own way. Things should be fine.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Stand up and stretch! You find that your appointment book is completely full. Even though you like it that way, you'll want to leave some free space to spend with family or your sweetheart. It will do you, and them, some good. Get your smile back, and your dreams. Take that deserving break.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

A stranger introduces you to a new way of releasing energy. Sounds kinky, eh? Act on your desires, nothing is holding you back. Don't go blaming the consequences on anybody else though. You make up your own mind, you get in your own trouble!

Lambda's First Ever Short Story Competition

That's right Laurentian. Lambda will be holding a **Short Story Competition** so you can show the whole school just how talented you actually are (no drinking required). All you have to do is come up with an original short story and submit it to Lambda and you could not only win fabulous prizes, but your story will also be published in an issue of Lambda this year!

The stories will be judged on by a panel of five comprised of staff and students (to be determined at a later date) and the top three will be published in consecutive editions of Lambda with the winner to be published in a special feature section.

The Rules:

- Stories must be submitted to Lambda **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2001**
- Stories must be **3000 words or less**
- Stories must be submitted to Lambda printed out and on disk in text format. **DO NOT EMAIL YOUR STORY!!!**
- All submissions will become the property of Lambda Publications and will be subject to editing
- Competition is open to **ALL** Laurentian students with the exception of editorial staff, staff writers and executive members of Lambda Publications. Submissions must bear the authors full name, student number and phone number. Stories will not be accepted without this information.

For More information call 673-6548 or stop by SCE 301

Stay Tuned for a complete list of prizes and dates of story publication.

DID YOU KNOW IF YOU SMASH WINT-o-GREEN
LIFESAVERS WITH A HAMMER IN THE DARK YOU
WO'NT HAVE ANY LIFESAVERS LEFT?

Arts & Entertainment

WWF and ECW Together?

Hugh Panelas
Staff Writer

I must first start off this week by stating that the following is strictly a rumor. Generally I would not report such a thing, unless there was some fact basis, and I myself am not too sure what to think of this one. Word has it that Vince McMahon and Paul Heyman and currently in negotiations and we could see some interesting happenings in the WWF and ECW very soon. Here are the possibilities of what may come:

The WWF has been interested in signing some of the ECW's top talent. There is a rumor that Paul Heyman may get signed as well and instantly be given the job of head booker. This makes sense because Heyman has working with almost the entire WWF roster and they all like and respect him.

The other possibility is that the WWF will buy into ECW and Vince will treat ECW as his hardcore division. This has been rumored in the past and due to the signings that the WWF has made over the past week, it looks promising.

I am not sure what to think of this because all of these rumors that have been flying around has come from the WWF signing Justin Credible. That's right; Credible will be debuting in the immediate future, possibly on Smackdown X-Treme tonight. I was actually surprised when he didn't come out on RAW. As for other ECW stars, look for Rhino to sign very soon, probably this weekend and the WWF has also been in talks with Yoshihiro Tajiri and Super Crazy. This looks like the beginning of a major hardcore revolution in the WWF.

In order to make some room for this talent the WWF has also made some releases. Mideon was cut due to the fact that no one really ever liked him as of late. After the whole Ministry of Darkness faded there wasn't much to do with him. The next release made a tear come to my eye, a tear of joy that is. Earlier this year I reported that the Road Dogg was suspended; well the WWF has released him so that he can tend to his



"personal issues". Maybe if the Dogg didn't smoke up every chance he got then he would still be boring us with the old "Oh you didn't know" crap. Honestly though, I hope everything works out for the best for him.

Just when I thought that things couldn't look anymore promising for the WWF something devastating has occurred. William Regal has suffered a neck injury and will be forced to the sidelines for the next little while. I am truly going to miss William in the ring for however long the duration of his absence is. His wrestling skills are far superior to anyone in any federation. Oh who am I kidding, sure he's great on the mic but I think Hulk Hogan can move faster than Regal ever could.

Speaking of injuries, X-Pac and Eddie Guerrero have all healed up from their mishaps and should be back in action between now and mid-February. What poor X-Pac is going to do I have no idea. Road Dogg is gone and Tori has been paired with Raven, maybe the return of the 1-2-3 Kid is in order.

Well now on to a top 10 list that all WCW fans out there (if there are any) will love:

Top 10 Reasons Why WCW Still Sucks

10. No one wants to sign contracts; Meng goes to WWF after winning the hardcore title because they offered him a concrete deal.
9. Not even 4000 fans want to pay to see you, after taping Nitro you're lucky if there are 200 fans for the

Thunder taping.

8. The average age of the WCW roster is 30-plus and the speed level is slow. Sure there are some younger talents but they keep injuring each other.

7. Kevin Nash and Diamond Dallas Page keep rearing their old selves. Both are happy then they aren't, then they leave and now they're back.

6. There's always talk about Ric Flair, Hulk Hogan and Randy Savage returning to the ring, what's next, a geriatric title?

5. After almost losing \$100 million dollars last year you'd think they'd sell to a guy that would actually save the company rather than sell to a guy that kept them on top for a mere year and a half with the competition's top guys.

4. How about making sure your top wrestlers know what to do so that your other top wrestlers don't get hurt and try to sue you. (Goldberg injuring Bret Hart)

3. Jeff Jarrett, after being reduced to a woman-beater, you go on to WCW to become one of their brightest stars. Not bad for a former Intercontinental Champion. I really doubt that we'll see Kidman come to the WWF and win the World Championship anytime soon.

2. As a major WCW signing, you bring in Dustin Rhodes a.k.a. Goldust. Too bad he's a fat washed up bum. As a cherry topper you also bring back his father Dusty Rhodes and give him a major role as well.

1. After leading your fans to believe that you are actually doing something good and interesting by having a secret wrestler attack the hated WCW champion it turns out to be old-timer Animal and to top it off you have him as part of Ric Flair's stable.

Weekly World News Briefs

www.weeklyworldnews.com

Sicko Space Aliens are Stealing Our Women—and Turning Them Into Prostitutes!

Twisted aliens are running a shocking interplanetary white-slavery ring, says a top UFO investigator, who charges that the E.T.s routinely whisk female abductees off to far-flung planets and space stations to serve as hookers!

Respected UFO researcher Dan Courtley bases his controversial claim on interviews with more than four dozen women — who, when put under hypnosis, recalled being held captive for hours, days, weeks or months and repeatedly coerced into sickening sex acts. "Far from the cuddly, high-minded beings depicted in Hollywood films such as E.T., real space aliens are sex-obsessed perverts," says Courtley. "They will 'get busy' with anyone, anytime, anywhere — regardless of the species or planet of origin. 'This is the real reason they took to the stars thousands of years ago. They don't have the slightest interest in serious space exploration or science — they were just looking for fresh prospects.'"

One of the women interviewed by the Las Vegas-based Courtley is casino worker Gail S., 27, who dropped out of sight early in 1998. When she surfaced again 18 months later in September 1999, she had no memory of where she had been, but suffered deep feelings of depression and even attempted suicide. Under hypnosis by a psychiatrist, she recalled having been kidnapped by a UFO — but felt her memory was being suppressed. It was only after being re-hypnotized by Courtley that the whole story came out.

Gail recalled being flown by the UFO to a mining planet and held with 12 other girls of all nationalities. Some kind of coins were passed from the miners to the E.T.s who transported her. "We were kept in a dormitory, like a harem," she said. "They'd knock when they wanted us." The aliens were physically repulsive, with oversize heads and six long tentacles — yet she admits being repeatedly taken to the peak of passion by their no-holds-barred lovemaking sessions. "They put this chip in your brain that made you feel hot and bothered all the time," she revealed. Attractive blonde Gail and her fellow captives were often ordered to dance for the alien miners.

"They seem to be mesmerized by rhythmic movements," she said. "They would sit there in this big padded area, watching us dance naked as jaybirds for hours before pouncing on us." The lust-crazed aliens finally sent Gail back to Earth — in keeping with a pattern, Courtley says. "The aliens are fickle," he said. "After a while, they get bored with a girl and send her home."

The new findings reveal the real reason that aliens carefully erase the memories of abductees. Said Courtley, "While these poor individuals are in captivity, they are subjected to acts so vile and degrading that the memories, if left intact, could shatter the person's sanity."

Space Alien Poop is Making Us Sick, Sick, Sick!

Millions of people around the world have contracted a strange and potentially fatal virus — from space alien feces! And at least one expert predicts that by the year 2004, one in every two Americans will have had the debilitating illness. Controversial internist Dr. Marcus Balinter says that tens of thousands of the Americans who reported flu symptoms last season were not infected with the flu at all. He said they were suffering from an illness that is contracted by eating beef, lamb, chicken and other meat contaminated with the bodily wastes of extraterrestrial visitors.

Hundreds of Americans in the Deep South and the Midwest may have died from the virus, he said, and countless others may die in countries around the world. "Hundreds of extremely reliable witnesses report encounters with space aliens in the United States each year, so there is little doubt that extraterrestrials are here among us," Dr. Balinter says. "Even the most conservative of the experts say there are probably half a million aliens in the Earth's atmosphere right now."

Dr. Balinter says he concluded that space alien feces causes many earthly illnesses after consulting with an international group of UFO experts. They say that alien dung is solid at first, but as it decomposes it takes on the color and consistency of grain. Farm animals can't tell the difference.

"Most UFO and space alien sightings occur in rural areas," Dr. Balinter says. "They stay out of the cities to lessen the chance of being discovered. 'They dump their waste products into fields and streams and many other places where it ends up being consumed by livestock. These animals digest the disease-ridden material and we, in turn, eat their flesh."

"The waste products contain a virus that produces flu-like symptoms. It overpowers the human immune system." Dr. Balinter's theory has had little support among his colleagues in the medical field. But he is unfazed. "As more people come down with this mysterious 'flu,' scientists will have to look more deeply into the cause," he says. "When they do, they will see that I'm right."

IF SMURFS ARE REALLY THREE APPLES HIGH...
HOW THE HELL DID THEY LIVE IN MUSHROOMS?

Huge Movie Nitpicking

Hugh Panelas
Staff Writer

This week I will be picking apart that ultimate chic-flick, a movie that all boyfriends and husbands got dragged to, a movie in which I was forced to go see on Valentine's Day because I made the mistake of saying "we can see whatever you want to", this movie being Titanic. Apart from the obvious things such as the sun setting in the wrong direction and the fact that Jack and Rose would have been sucked under with the Titanic when it sank, I seemed to have found a few more interesting quirks in the movie.

1. Jack talks about a lake he used to go ice fishing on in Wisconsin when he was a child, the only problem with that is the fact that it was a man-made lake and it didn't exist at that time.

2. Frozen bodies float in the water because ice is lighter than water, why does Jack sink?

3. After Jack and Rose are finished bawling in the backseat of the car you can see the top of a dark blanket that separates their bodies.

4. There was a major problem with Rose giving the finger to Lovejoy, that type of gesture would have met nothing. It didn't come around until later in time.

5. The crown and torch of that Statue of Liberty wasn't lit until the 1950's, the surviving passengers would have never seen any light when arriving to New York.

6. When Rose is at home as an old lady watching the news report about her picture if you look closely you can see the reflection of the filming crew in her TV.

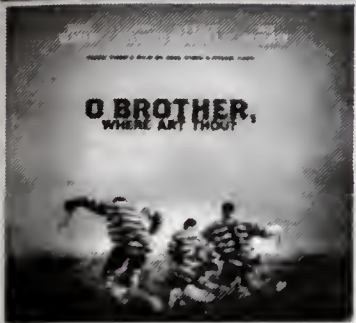
7. James Cameron played the part of the immigrant that was getting his beard checked for lice.

8. When the rescue boat is yelling for survivors, you can hear the echo of the man's voice. Nothing could ever echo as they were out in the North Atlantic with nothing around for miles.

9. When Jack is sinking at the end of the movie and the picture begins to fade, if you watch closely, you can see him swim away.

10. The lifeboats are marked SS Titanic. This is wrong, as the Titanic was never registered in the US. It was registered in England so the lifeboats should have read RMS Titanic.

Believe me, there are so many historically wrong events and nitpicks in this movie that it isn't even funny. At least us guys now have some way of shooting down this female favorite. Want any movies nitpicked? E-mail me at hugh_bulls@hotmail.com and I'll do my best.



O Brother, Where Art Thou?

by Mat

This is a strange little soundtrack that will probably make much more sense once the movie is released. From what I now of the movie, it is the Coen Brothers' revamping of Homer's *The Odyssey* and placing it in the deep south. Strange little concept, but the soundtrack matches the story perfectly.

The *Oh Brother* (not to be confused with the *Oh God, They Made Another* series) soundtrack is deeply rooted in classic southern blues and traditional southern music. Some of the songs are recreated the way they would have sounded at the time the movie is set in, and the rest are updated slightly by such artists as **Alison Krauss**, **Harry McClintock**, **Emmylou Harris**, **The Soggy Bottom Boys** and more. The soundtrack actually takes you to another time that one can only imagine through such powerful and soulful music.

Unless you are heavily into old-school blues and traditional southern music, maybe you should see the movie before rushing out and getting the soundtrack. Even without seeing *Oh Brother, Where Art Thou* I would have to say this soundtrack is good.



Xzibit - The Restless LP

by Cobb

By far, the smartest move Xzibit could have made was hooking up with the Dr. Dre camp. Xzibit who had enjoyed some success with his previous 2 solo albums, has his guaranteed biggest selling record climbing up the charts as we speak.

Riding the success of his cameos with the likes of Dre, Snoop and Eminem, Mr. X to the Z releases his 3rd album at the best possible time. His lyrics have always been as recognizable as his raspy DMX, Ja Rule-type voice. I think the difference between this disc and his previous ones is the amount of hype surrounding its release. Xzibit as a Dre protégé isn't coming out of nowhere like Eminem was, he already had a fan base and it can only grow bigger and bigger. Xzibit is already tearing up the charts with his first single X. Another track that really grabbed me was Front 2 Back, which left me reminiscing of an old track called Chamber Music.

I'd recommend this disc to everyone... even those shitty DJ's at the pub!



Dido - No Angel

by Mat

So guys, when your girlfriend wants you to listen to the newest female singer on the charts, what do you do? If you were like me you would run away thinking it was *Tori Amos* again. But, if you see *Dido* in her hands, don't run.

Dido, made somewhat famous by her theme song for the under-appreciated television series *Roswell* and infamous as 'the chick with Eminem in that cool video' actually has her own Cd that is surprisingly good. I don't know what it is about the album that pulls you in, but the mix of the otherworldly music with one of the most beautiful voices in music today creates a sound that you just have to listen to again and again. I know, technically this is *Lilith Fair* music, but hey, it's better than a lot of the other crap out there today! And hey, if you are sick of *Eminem*, this Cd features *Thank You*, basically *Stan* without *Vanilla Trash*.

No Angel, no matter what your friends will think, is actually a great album worth getting. And guys, if you need a cover, just buy it for your girlfriend and your friends will never know!



Funkmaster Flex- 60 Min of Funk Vol.4

by Cobb

The king of the mix tape returns and hits the listener just as hard as before. Flex who is infamous in the hip hop industry for the most amazing mix tapes around, has once again attacked the hip hop community.

The evolution of the Flex Mix Tape has been noticeable since Volume 1, which relied heavily on songs which had already made it big and freestyles over popular beats, as compared to Volume 4 which consists of newly produced works from start to finish. As with all of Flex's mix tapes, it is saturated with hip hoppers big names, like **DMX**, **Nelly**, **Notorious B.I.G.**, **Busta Rhymes**, and **Lil' Kim**. There are too many good tracks on this disc to list, but if I had to pick one standout song, it would be Nelly's *Come Over...* or Jagged Edge's *Did She Say...* or maybe I can't pick just one.

The entire album was enjoyable and easy to listen to, although a Funkmaster Flex disc loses some of its appeal when the scratching isn't present. That was the only problem I found with the disc was the transitions from song to song, it felt more like a compilation than a mix tape, but still an awesome disc.



Dear God... Stop the Torture!!!

by Mat

It pains me when a record company sends me crap like this. First off, I can't believe the amount of teeny-bopper, bubble-gum, shoot-me-in-the-head music there is out there today, but to get two CDs in the same package from a record company was too much.

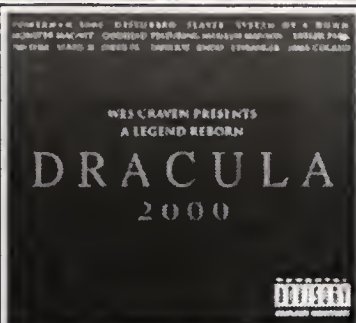
I tried to listen to the CDs... I swear I did... but I just couldn't do it. **O-Town**, the talentless *Survivor-Five* from *Making the Band*'s first track is titled *Liquid Dreams*. OK, does anyone else see the sickness of this song? They are singing about girls on record covers and in magazines that they dream about. *Liquid dreams...* dream girls... why didn't they just call the song *Spanking Under the Covers* or *Last Night's Wet Dream*. And speaking of *Dreams*, the second album is a group of fifteen and sixteen year old girls dressing like *Street Corner Barbie* and singing about true love and all sorts of other important early teen things. I would rather take a razor blade to my tongue and drink strong lemonade and salt than have to listen to anymore of this. So instead of a review I had a little competition.

O-Town vs. Dream-

Have you ever noticed that a CD in its case is about the same size as a slice of bread? Well, that's the type of thing I think about when I am listening to bad music. So, I just happened to have a two-slice toaster that I don't care about and in they went. I cranked the toaster to the *charcoal* setting and three minutes later my fire alarm was going off, but the CDs were actually still in somewhat good shape. *Dream* was a little better off, so I guess *Girl Power* is stronger than a toaster.

Surviving the first torture, I placed them on a cookie sheet, cranked the oven up to 500 degrees and watched their pimply little asses melt to sheer goo. **O-Town** caught fire (unlike their careers), so I ended the torture. Not knowing what to do with the mess I molded them into one collaborative ball and let it dry. I then took out the Louisville Slugger and hit a home run off my fourth floor balcony.

So if you want to actually listen to these CDs, there is a special duet, double-CD ball somewhere on Martindale Road that you can have.



Dracula 2000

by Mat

Movie studios pump so much money into movies to make them more marketable to their potential audience. One of the ways they try to get more money out of the general public is through soundtracks. Most soundtracks fall flat compared to the movie, but cost twice as much as a ticket. Only a few selected soundtracks actually are good enough to shell the cash out for... and *Dracula 2000* is definitely one of those soundtracks.

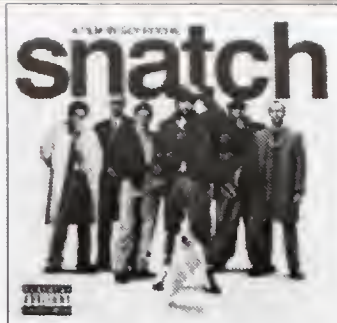
I don't even care that I haven't even seen this movie yet (although I know the twist ending) because this soundtrack is enough to hold me over until they release it on video. I don't know why it is that horror flicks always have the coolest soundtracks, but hey, blood and guts and heavy metal music go so well together.

The soundtrack for *Dracula 2000* is pure metal that will basically make your ears bleed and your roommate run crying to the porter. The album features fifteen blistering tracks including bands like **Slayer**, **Disturbed**, **System of a Down**, **Monster Magnet**, **Pantera**, **Endo** and more. Just that list should have all the metal maniacs drooling, but wait, the best is yet to come!

Of all the tracks on the soundtrack there are two that really stand out. The first (fueled by the *Zombie* bloodline) is *Ultra Mega* by **Powerman 5000**. This track is what metal should be. Forget soft spoken, whiney *Creed*-ish tracks, *Ultra Mega* is pure perfection when it comes to hard-ore metal. In my opinion this is the best track on the album.

Coming in a close second is *Break You Down* by **Godhead** featuring non other than **Marilyn Manson**. Do I need to go into detail about this track or should I just let your little minds run wild. Trust me, this is a great track which should be obvious by the artists collaborating on it.

This is one of those soundtracks that only comes out once in a while and true metal heads should pick this one up for sure. The *Dracula 2000* Soundtrack has everything that you need for a horror movie soundtrack... damn loud music!



Snatch - Original Soundtrack

by Mat

Snatch is probably one of the most anticipated films since *Pulp Fiction* and just like *Pulp* the soundtrack is a strange mix of different styles blending new and old together to create a very memorable collection of songs.

Probably the most interesting track on the whole album is the very first track which is just a fifteen second spot where **Brad Pitt** is talking about... well... I think he says the word furniture at some point, but beyond that I have no idea what the hell he is saying. Actually there are a few sound clips from the movie featuring **Dennis Farina** and **Alan Ford**. Very *Pulp*-like, but also cool.

As for the music on the album, I really don't know where to start. There are the tracks that feature established mainstream acts like **Madonna** and **Oasis**, not-so-mainstream but still popular acts like **The Specials**, **Massive Attack**, **10CC** and **The Stranglers** and the 'who the hell are they acts like **The Johnson Brothers**, **Klint**, **Maceo & the Macks**, **The Herbaliser** and **Heuy 'Piano' Smith & the Clowns**. The soundtrack is almost like burning random tracks off Napster and getting lucky by getting mostly good music.

The main focus of the soundtrack seems to be the British side of the music industry be it punk, pop or rave. Of course that is to be expected since Director **Guy Ritchie** is probably the most popular British director today after *Lock Stock and Two Smoking Barrels* and marrying **Madonna** (I wonder why she's on the soundtrack).

It's hard to say much more about the soundtrack without actually seeing the movie, but if the music blends as well with the movie as it does with all the other tracks on the album then you have not only a hit soundtrack, but also a hit movie. Whether you have seen the movie or not, if you are into the Brit side of music then you will love the soundtrack to *Snatch*. Check it out, and if you can tell me what **Brad Pitt** is saying I would appreciate it.

JOKE OF THE WEEK

A man walks into a doctor's office. The receptionist asks the man "What's wrong today sir?" The man responds "There is something wrong with my penis!"

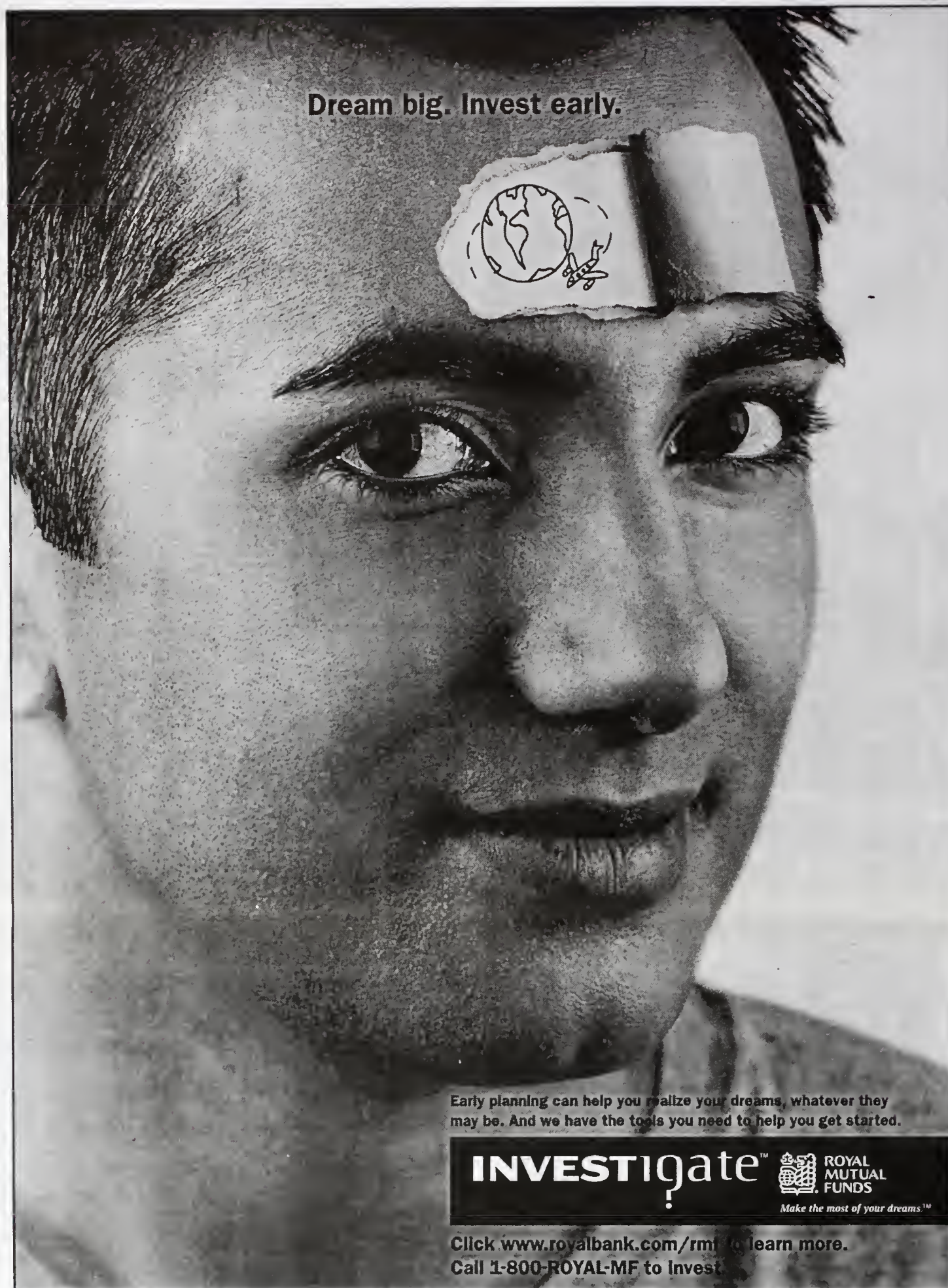
Totally offended the receptionist explains to the man "You can't say that here." The man responds, "You asked me what was wrong and I told you, there is something wrong with my penis."

"Well," explains the receptionist "you should say that there's something wrong with your ear, then when the doctor sees you you can discuss your real problem in private. Would you like to try it again?"

"Sure," said the man. "There is something wrong with my ear."


"What would the problem be sir?" the receptionist asked.

"I can piss out of it!"



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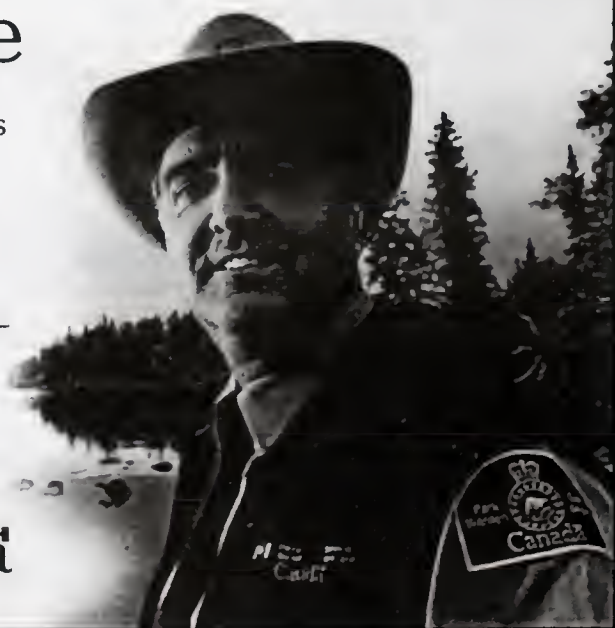
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COMICS



DOWNUNDER

BY MAT THOMPSON

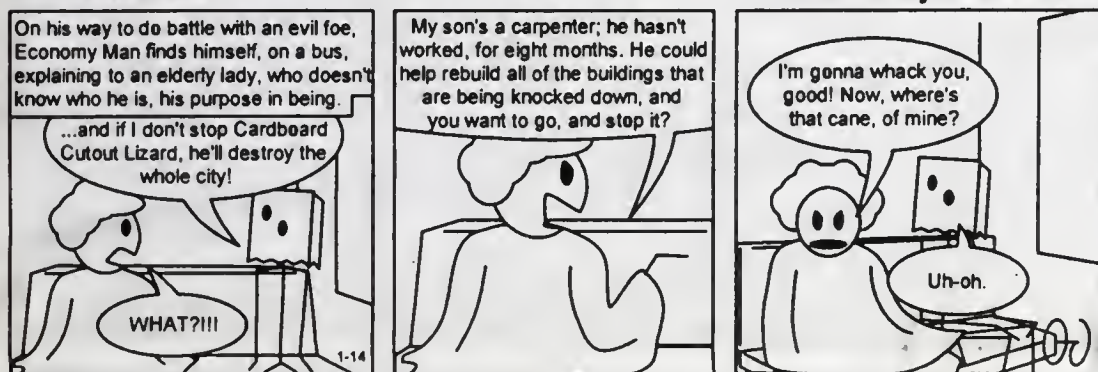


Behind Closed Doors



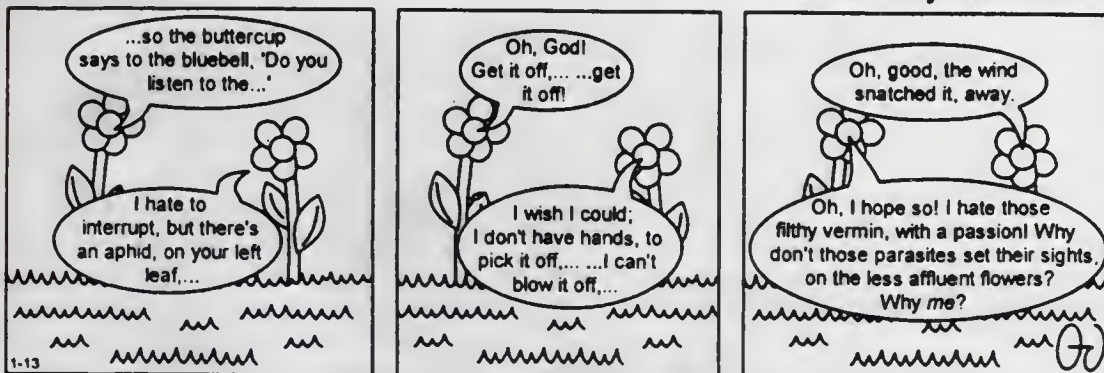
ECONOMY MAN

Written by Gabriel Noël

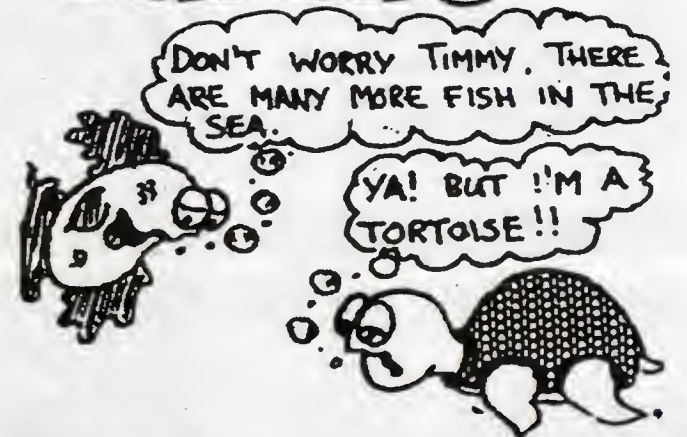


FIELD

Written by Gabriel Noël



Fishwicks



FREDDY TRIED, ALBEIT TO NO AVAIL TO CHEER UP HIS FRIEND TIMMY AFTER HIS RECENT BREAKUP.

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The Adventures of Psycho the Dog

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